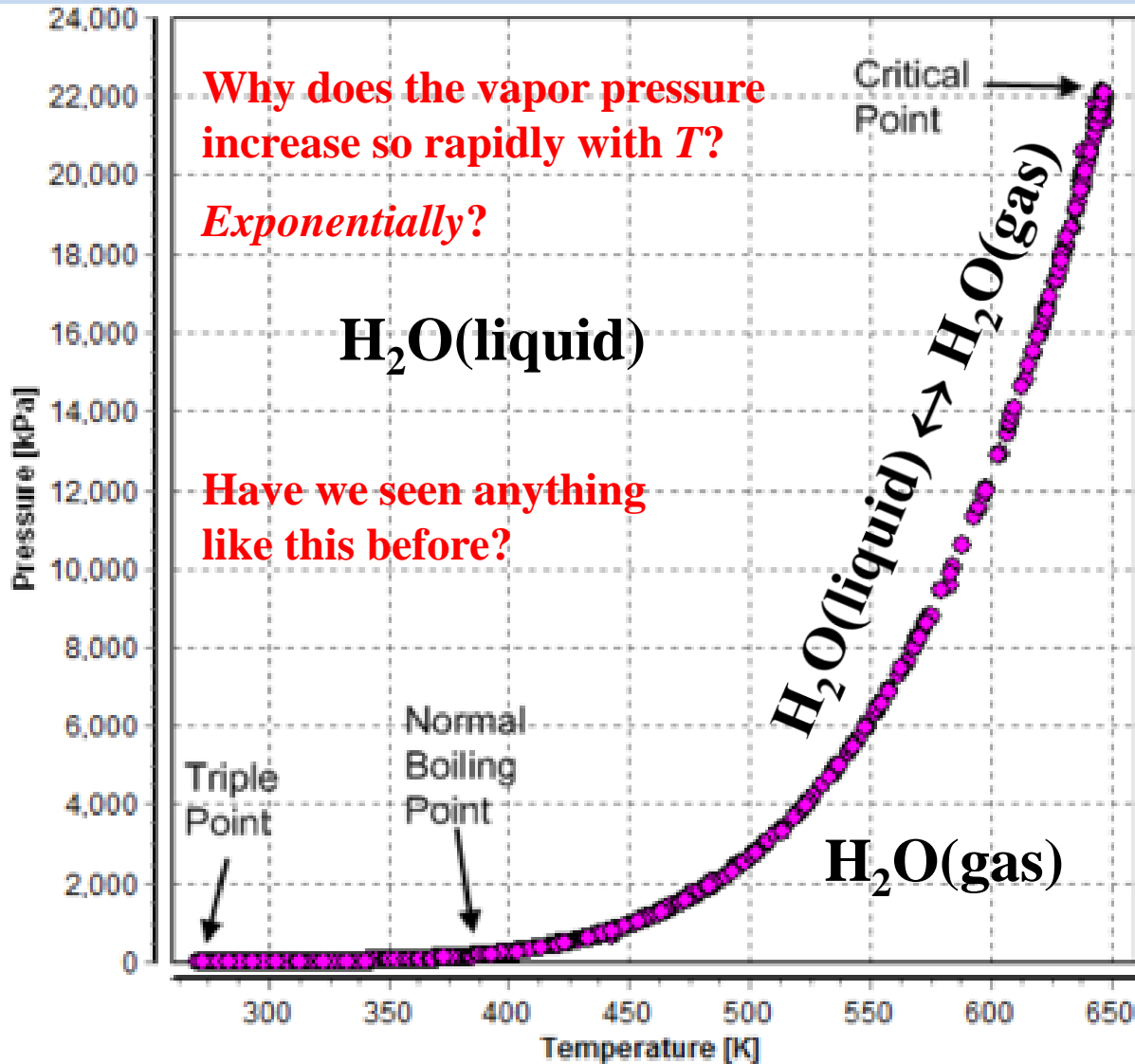


# Chapter 8. Phase Diagrams and the Stability of Solids, Liquids and Gases

## Summary

- phase diagrams are used to provide graphical representations of conditions required for the existence of solids, liquids or vapors
- the stability of different phases is related to changes in the Gibbs energy with temperature and pressure
- the **phase rule** is introduced to predict the number of different phases that can co-exist at equilibrium
- the effects of **surface tension** at the boundary between phases are introduced

# Vapor Pressure Phase Diagram for Water





$$\text{Equilibrium constant } K = p_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$$

**Data at 25 °C:**

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta H^\circ &= \Delta H_{\text{fm}}^\circ(\text{H}_2\text{O}, \text{g}) - \Delta H_{\text{fm}}^\circ(\text{H}_2\text{O}, \text{l}) \\ &= -241,818 \text{ J mol}^{-1} - (-285,830 \text{ J mol}^{-1}) \\ &= 44,012 \text{ J mol}^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta G^\circ &= \Delta G_{\text{fm}}^\circ(\text{H}_2\text{O}, \text{g}) - \Delta G_{\text{fm}}^\circ(\text{H}_2\text{O}, \text{l}) \\ &= -228,572 \text{ J mol}^{-1} - (-237,129 \text{ J mol}^{-1}) \\ &= 8,557 \text{ J mol}^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

$$K = \exp(-\Delta G^\circ/RT) = p_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = 0.0317 \text{ bar}$$



**Temperature Dependence of  $K$  and  $p_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  ?**

**van't Hoff equation**

$$\frac{d \ln K}{d(1/T)} = \frac{d \ln p_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}}{d(1/T)} = -\frac{\Delta H^\circ}{R} \approx \text{constant}$$

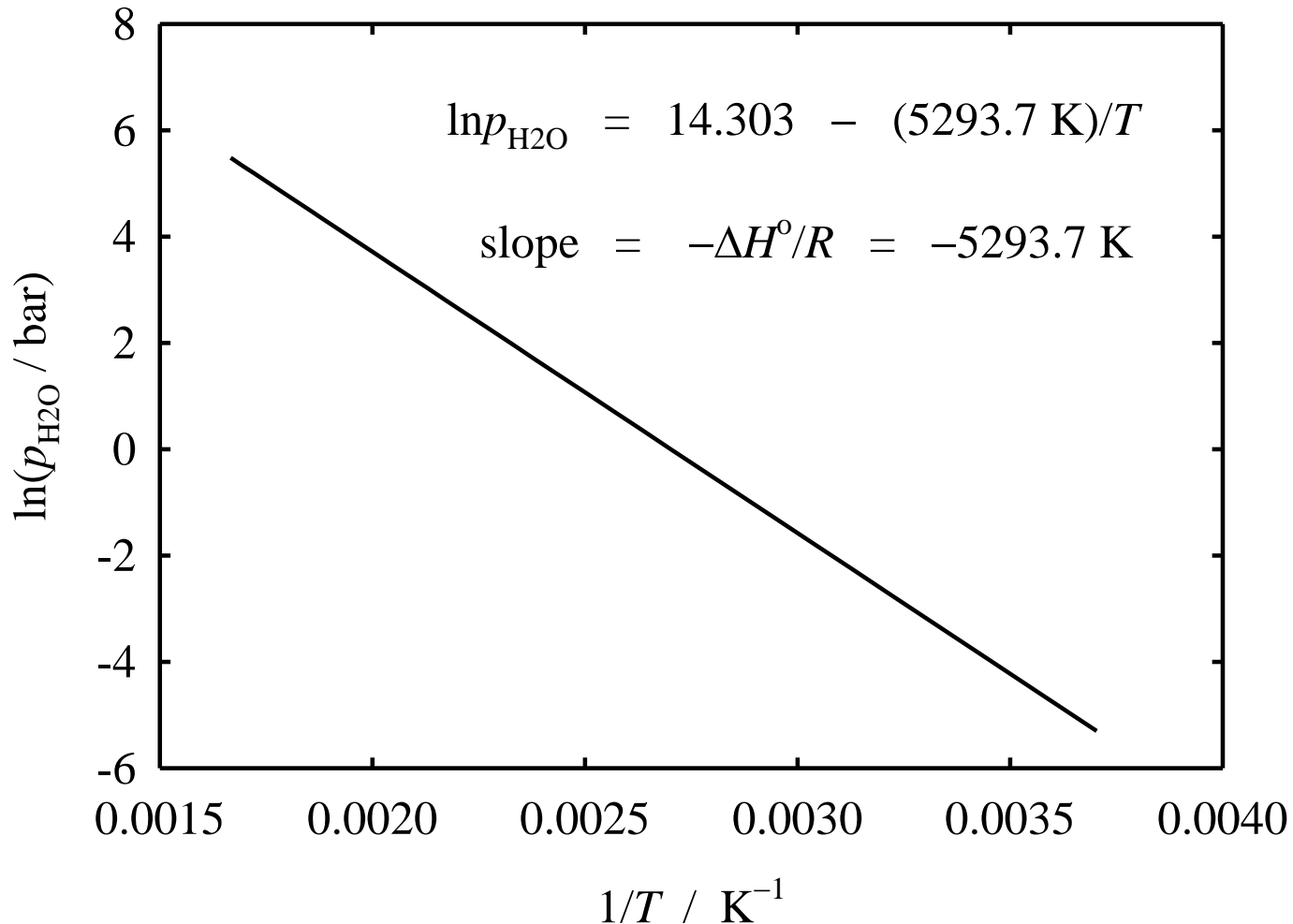
$$d \ln p_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = -\frac{\Delta H^\circ}{R} d \frac{1}{T}$$

Integrate:

$$\ln p_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}(T) - \ln p_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}(298.15 \text{ K}) = -\frac{\Delta H^\circ}{R} \left( \frac{1}{T} - \frac{1}{298.15 \text{ K}} \right)$$

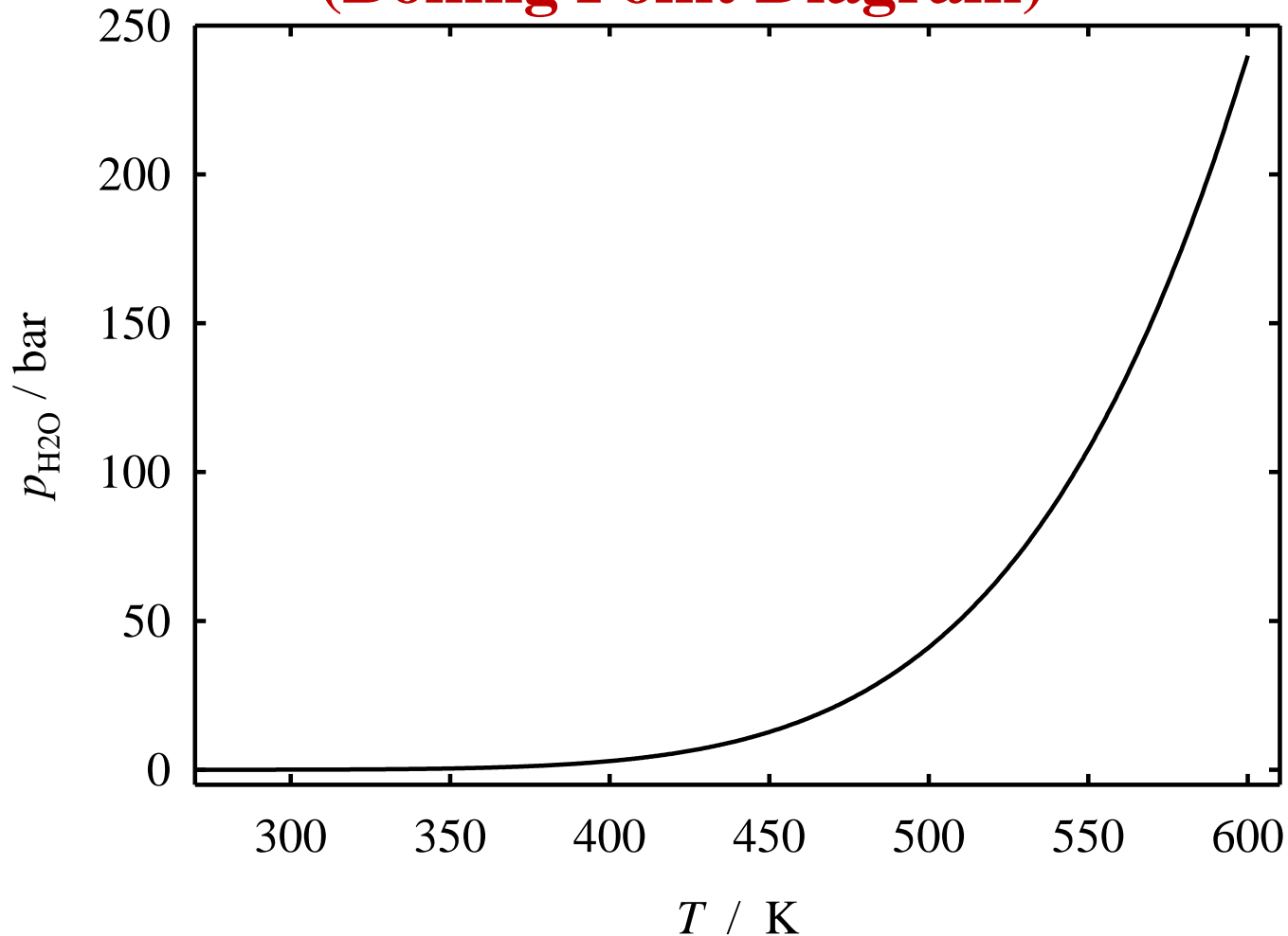


$\ln p_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  plotted against  $1/T$  (linear)





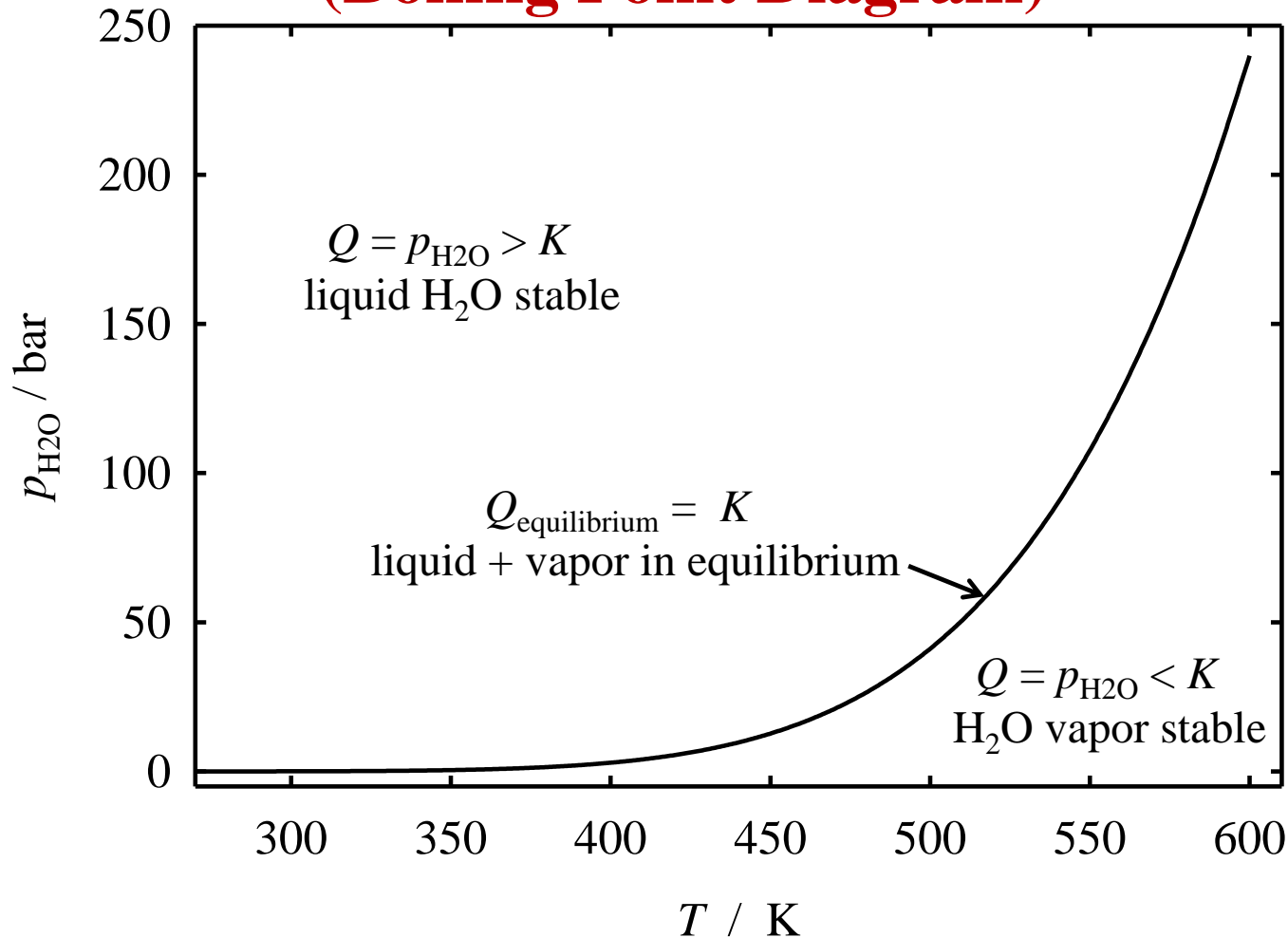
$p_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  plotted against  $T$  (exponential in  $1/T$ )  
(Boiling Point Diagram)

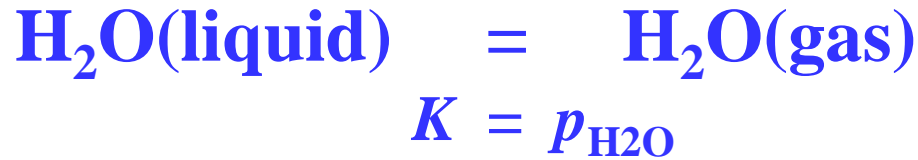




$$K = p_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$$

$p_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  plotted against  $T$  (exponential in  $1/T$ )  
(Boiling Point Diagram)





**This example shows:**

**phase-diagram regions indicate phases present**

**phase-diagram lines indicate phases co-existing  
at equilibrium**

**phase-diagram lines can provide quantitative  
thermodynamic data (*e.g.*, enthalpy of vaporization)**



## Section 8.1 Stability of Solid, Liquid and Gas Phases

### What is a “Phase” ?

A form of matter with uniform chemical composition and uniform physical properties (such as density).

example ice (solid water)

Experience suggests:

- solid phases exist at low temperatures
- heating a solid can convert it to a liquid
- heating a liquid converts it to a gas

# Relative Stability of Different Phases

How does a temperature change affect the stability of a phase?

From  $d\mu = dG_m = -S_m dT + V_m dp$ , the change in the chemical potential (Gibbs energy per mole) with temperature is

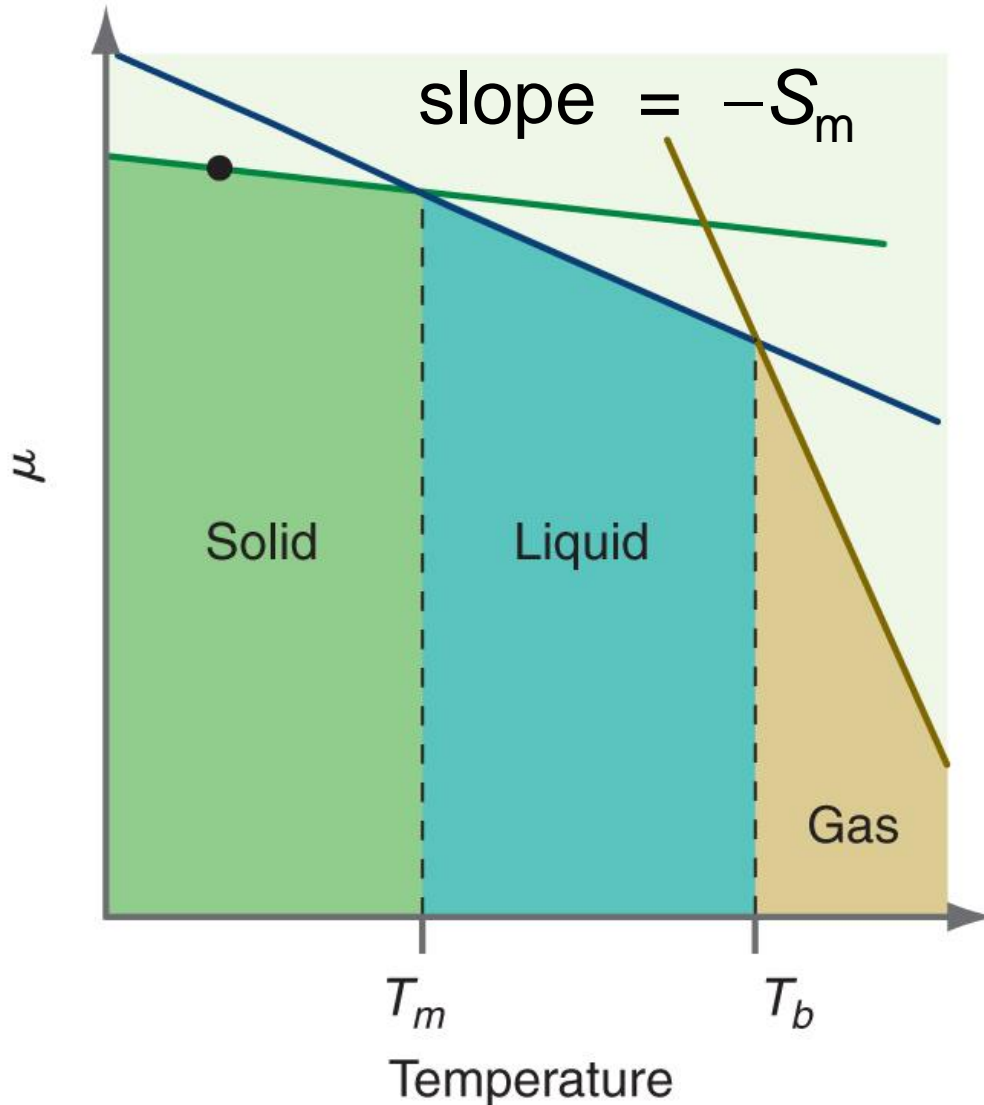
$$\left( \frac{\partial \mu}{\partial T} \right)_p = \left( \frac{\partial G_m}{\partial T} \right)_p = -S_m$$

The relative **molar entropies**

$$S_m(\text{solid}) < S_m(\text{liquid}) < S_m(\text{gas})$$

indicate that the chemical potential of the gaseous form of a substance is most sensitive to temperature.

# Relative Stability of Different Phases



$T < T_m$  (melting point)  
**solid most stable**  
( $\mu_{\text{solid}}$  lowest)

$T_m < T < T_b$   
**liquid most stable**  
( $\mu_{\text{liquid}}$  lowest)

$T > T_b$  (boiling point)  
**gas most stable**  
( $\mu_{\text{gas}}$  lowest)

# Relative Stability of Different Phases

How does a pressure change affect the stability of a phase?

From  $d\mu = dG_m = -S_m dT + V_m dp$ , the change in the chemical potential (Gibbs energy per mole) with pressure is

$$\left( \frac{\partial \mu}{\partial p} \right)_T = \left( \frac{\partial G_m}{\partial p} \right)_T = V_m$$

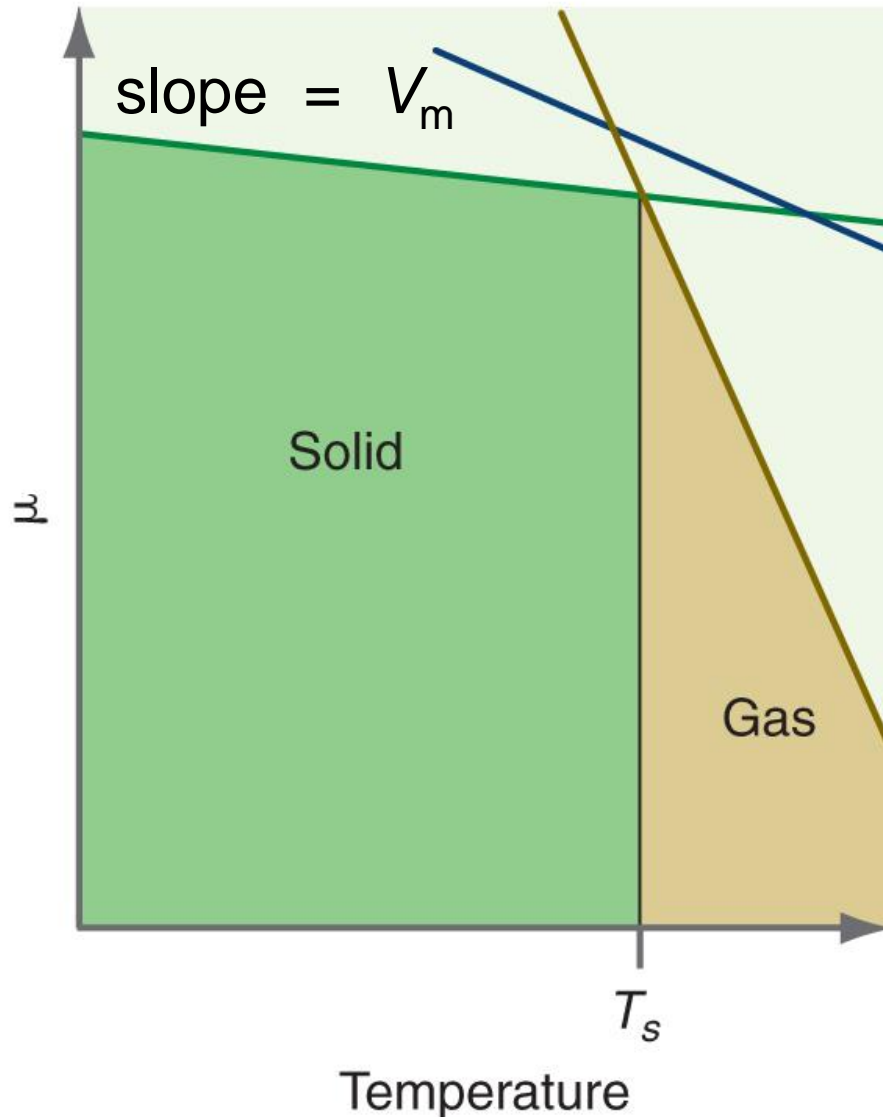
The relative **molar volumes**

$$V_m(\text{solid}) \ll V_m(\text{gas})$$

$$V_m(\text{liquid}) \ll V_m(\text{gas})$$

suggests that only the chemical potential of the gaseous form of a substance is appreciably affected by pressure changes.

# Relative Stability of Different Phases



At sufficiently low pressures,  $\mu_{\text{gas}}$  can drop below  $\mu_{\text{liquid}}$  allowing direct conversion of **solid to gas** (sublimation) upon heating.

**Application: “Dry” Ice**

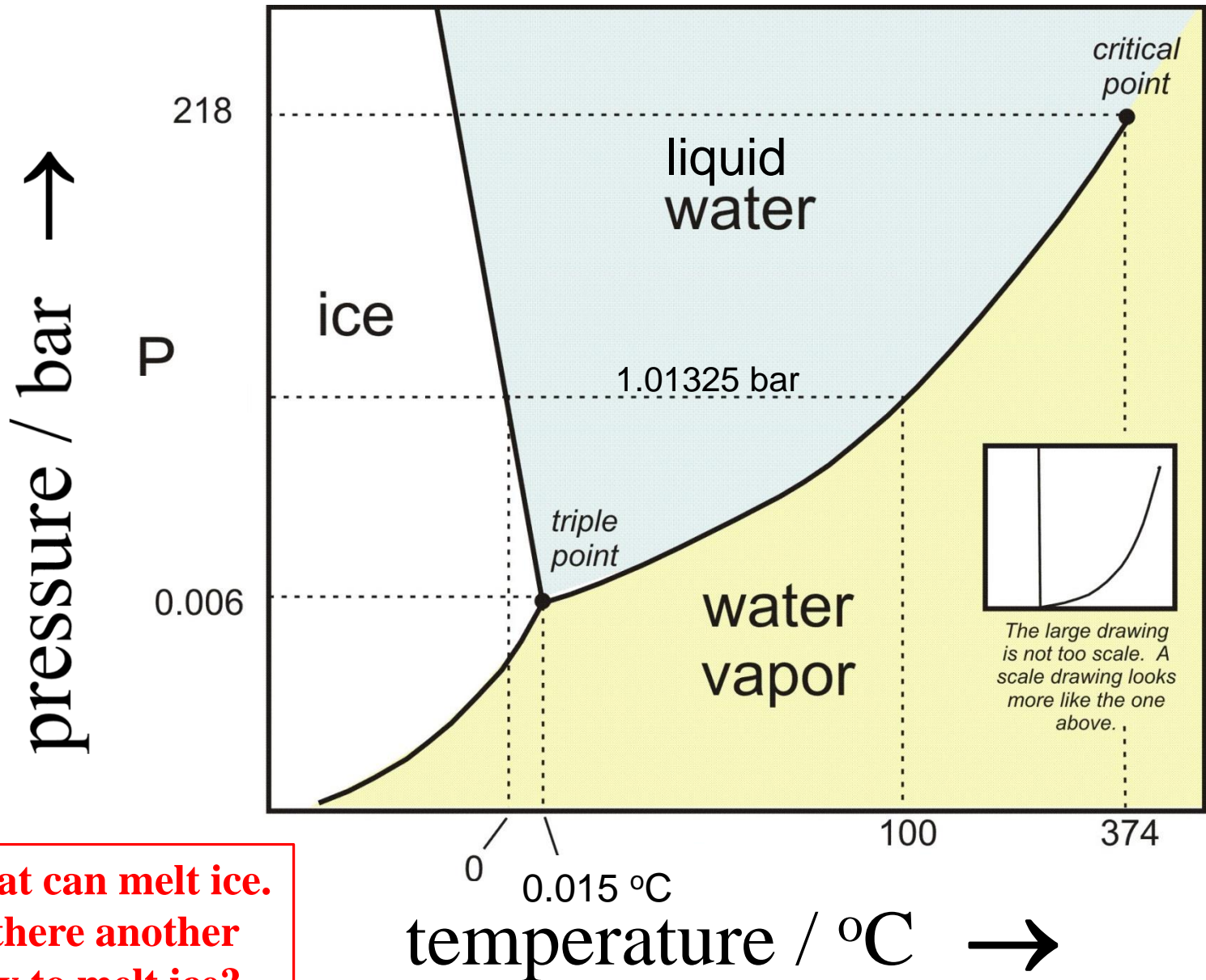


A convenient commercial refrigerant that does not form puddles of liquid (like melting ice) that can damage some products.

## Section 8.2 Pressure-Temperature Phase Diagrams (for Pure Substances)

- substances can exist as **solids, liquids or gases**
- **what is there** at a given temperature and pressure?
- $p$ - $T$  phase diagrams provide a convenient **graphical display** of the phase (or phases) present at equilibrium
- $p$ - $T$  phase diagrams also provide **quantitative information** about enthalpy (and volume) changes for phase transitions
- many **important practical applications**, such as:
  - ◆ will we have **rain, snow, dew, or frost** ?
  - ◆ **convert graphite to diamond** ?
  - ◆ why do **pressure-cookers** work so quickly?
  - ◆ why are **high-pressure steam engines** more efficient

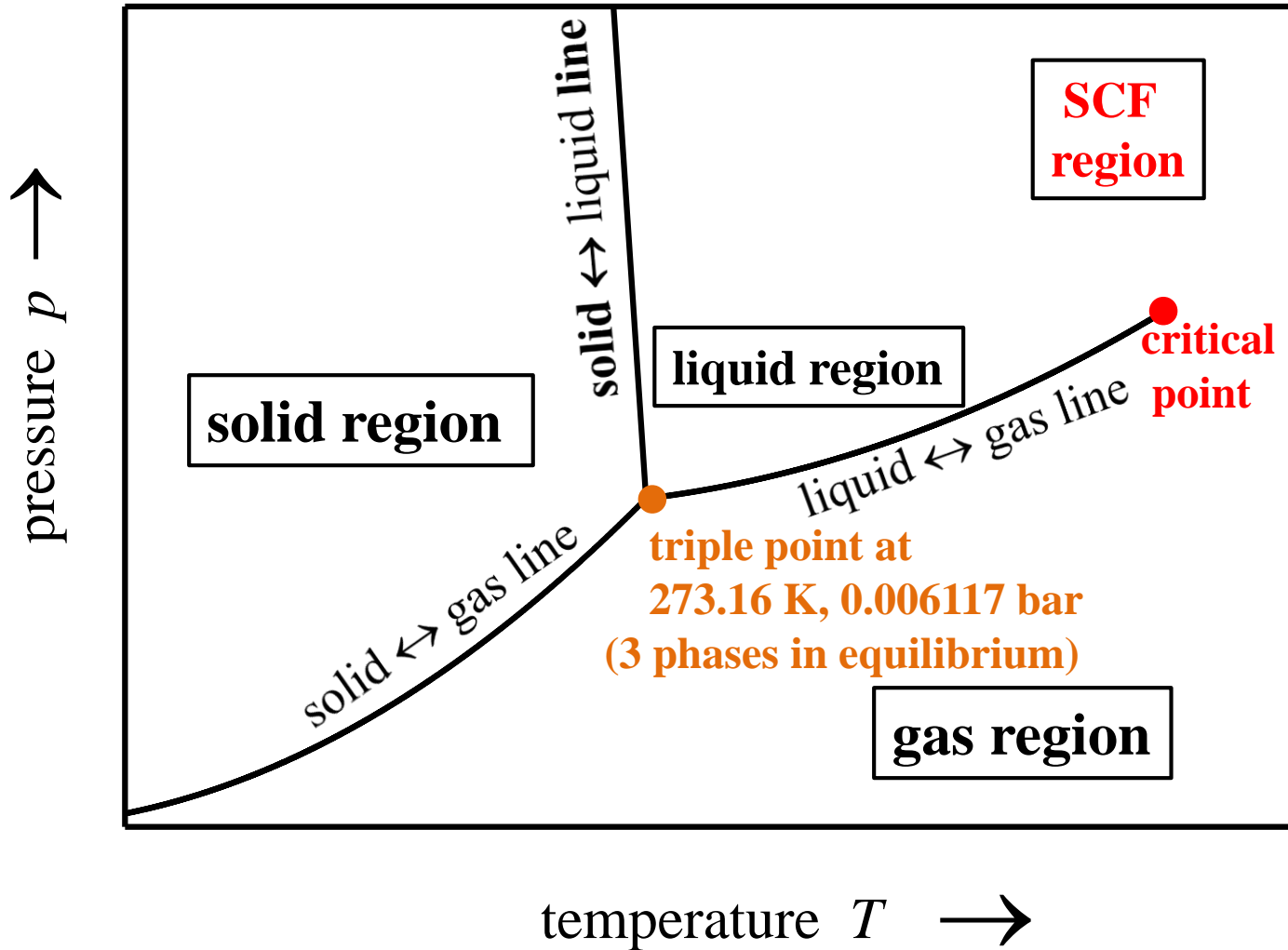
# Temperature-Pressure Phase Diagram for Water



- Heat can melt ice. Is there another way to melt ice?

# Temperature-Pressure Phase Diagram

(pure substance)



**SCF**

supercritical fluid  
( $T > T_c$ ,  $p > p_c$ )

Why does the liquid-gas line end at the critical point?

Why is the solid-liquid line so steep?

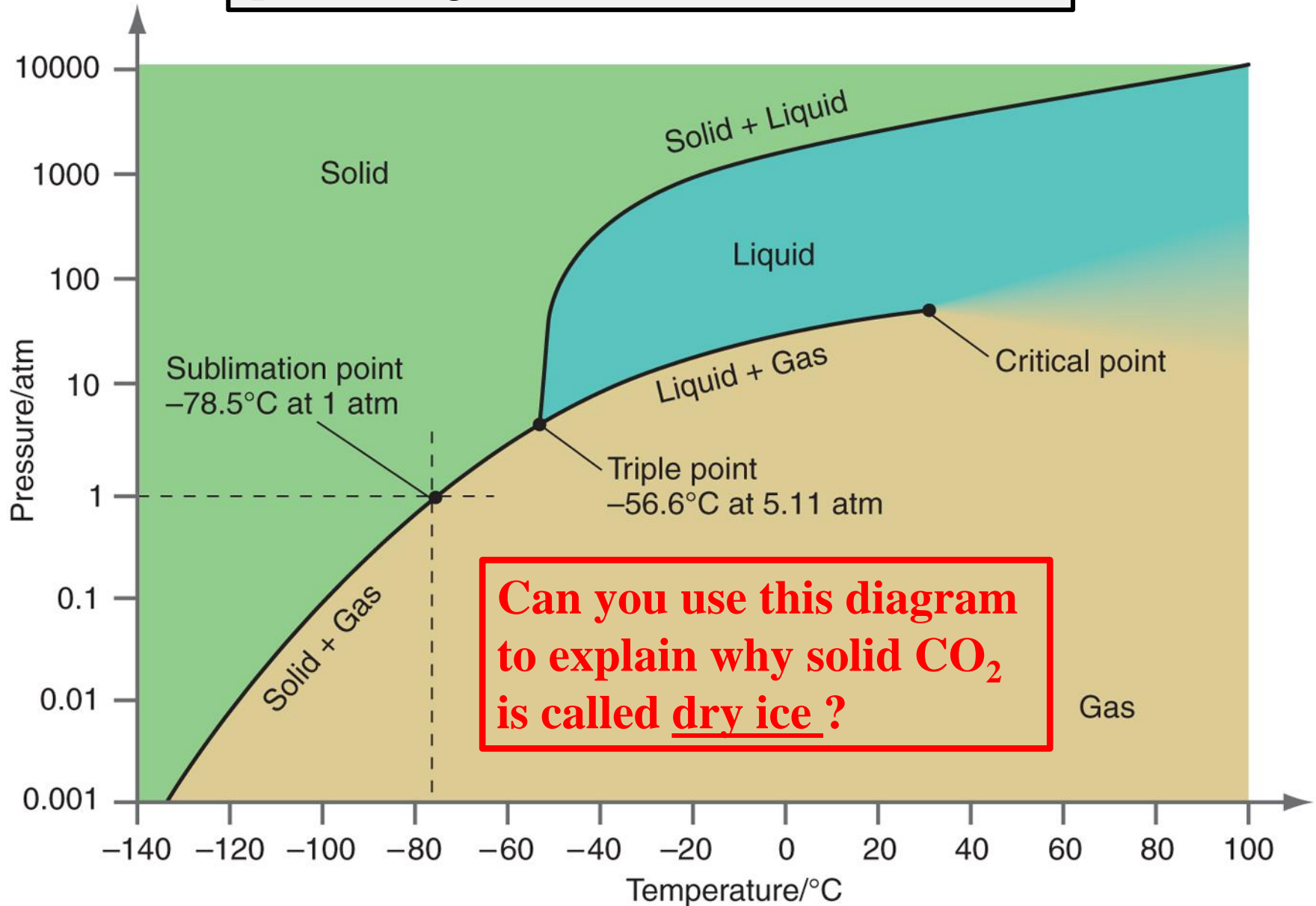
What is the significance of the triple point?



## Critical Points and Gas-Liquid-Solid Triple Points

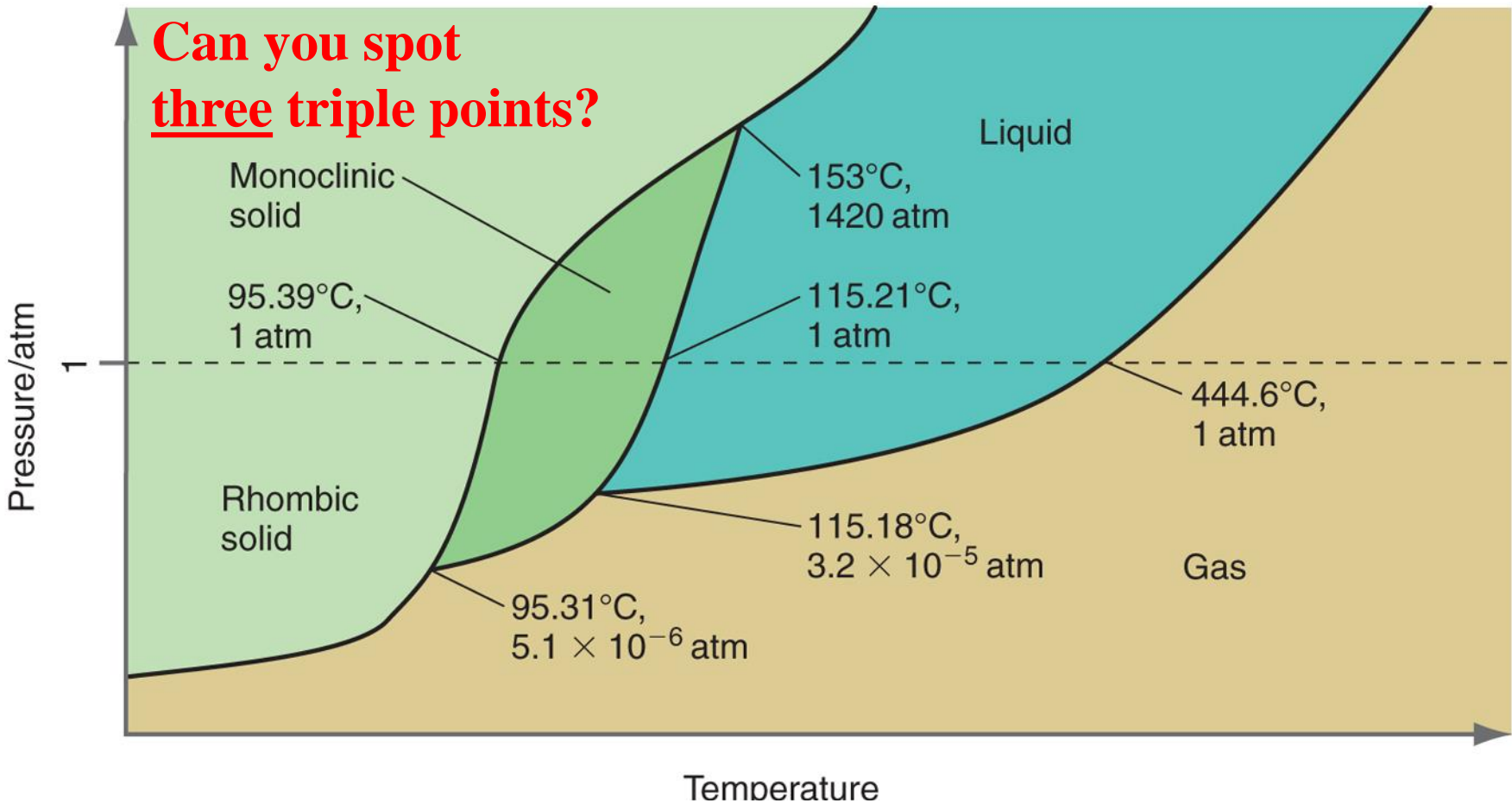
Substance	$T_c / \text{K}$	$p_c / \text{bar}$	$T_{\text{tp}} / \text{K}$	$p_{\text{tp}} / \text{bar}$
He	5.25	2.27	2.19	0.051
Ne	44.49	26.79	24.57	0.432
Ar	150.86	48.98	83.81	0.689
Kr	209.35	54.3	115.76	0.741
Xe	289.74	58.4	161.3	0.815
H <sub>2</sub>	32.98	12.93	13.84	0.0704
O <sub>2</sub>	154.58	50.43	54.36	0.00152
N <sub>2</sub>	126.20	33.98	63.18	0.126
CO <sub>2</sub>	304.13	73.75	216.55	5.17
CH <sub>4</sub>	190.56	45.99	90.68	0.117
CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	305.32	48.72	89.89	$8.0 \times 10^{-6}$
CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	369.83	42.48	85.47	$1.7 \times 10^{-6}$
H <sub>2</sub> O	647.14	220.64	273.16	0.006117
NH <sub>3</sub>	405.40	113.53	195.4	0.06076

# $p$ - $T$ Diagram for Carbon Dioxide



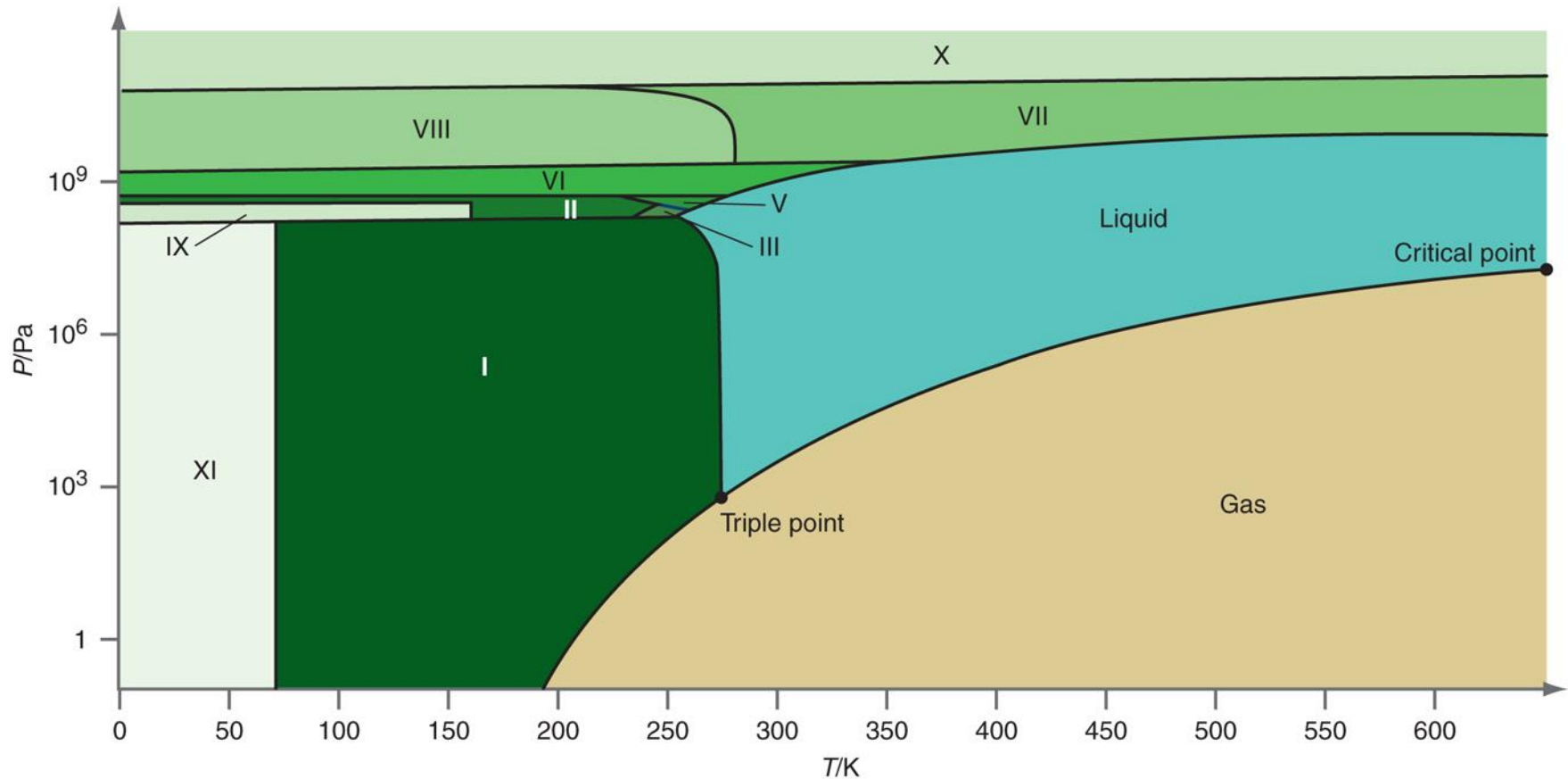
# $p$ - $T$ Diagram for Sulfur

illustrates the formation of more than one solid phase



**Can you describe what happens if sulfur is heated from room temperature to 450 °C at 1 atm?**

# $p$ - $T$ Diagram for Water up to $10^7$ bar



- 11 different forms of crystalline water (“ice”) are known
- the “normal” form of ice and snow is Ice I (hexagonal)
- notice that Ice VII has melting temperatures above 200 °C!

## Section 8.3 The Phase Rule

### Important practical questions:

- how many different phases can co-exist at equilibrium?
- how many independent variables (“degrees of freedom”) are needed to specify their states

### Pure Substance – One Phase: Two Degrees of Freedom

Specifying **two variables**, such as  $T$  and  $p$ , describes the state of the system and its intensive properties.

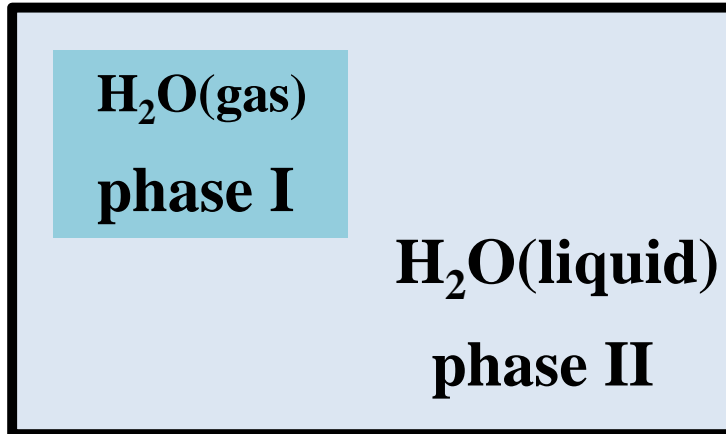
**Example** liquid water at 10 °C and 2.00 bar.

**Example** an ideal gas at 300 K and 5.00 bar.

(Note that the molar volume  $V_m = RT/p$  variable is not an independent variable at fixed  $T, p$ )

## Pure Substance – Two Phases: One Degree of Freedom

Two phases (I and II) of a pure substance in equilibrium.



At first glance:

four independent variables?

$$T_{\text{I}} \quad T_{\text{II}} \quad p_{\text{I}} \quad p_{\text{II}}$$

**Wrong!**

thermal equilibrium requires

$$T_{\text{I}} = T_{\text{II}}$$

mechanical equilibrium requires

$$p_{\text{I}} = p_{\text{II}}$$

chemical equilibrium requires

$$\mu_{\text{I}} = \mu_{\text{II}}$$

**3 constraints**

**on**

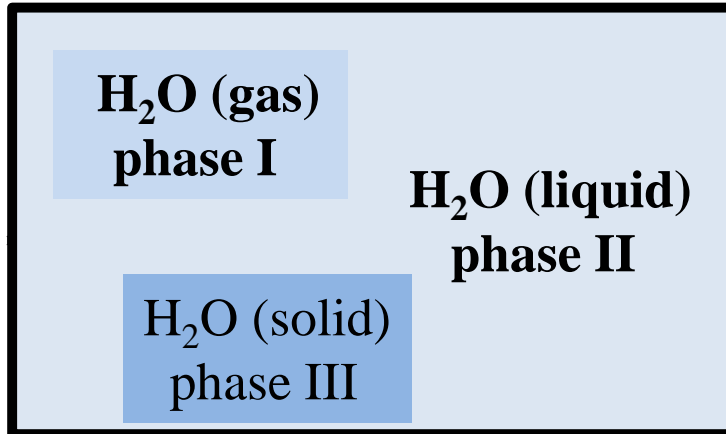
**4 variables**

→ only one independent variable

**Example** At 100 °C, liquid water and water vapor are in equilibrium only at 1 atm.  
*p* is not an independent variable if *T* is fixed, and *vice versa*.

# Pure Substance – Three Phases: No Degrees of Freedom!

Three phases (I, II and III) of a pure substance in equilibrium.



**six independent variables?**

$$T_I \quad T_{II} \quad T_{III} \quad p_I \quad p_{II} \quad p_{III}$$

**Wrong again!**

thermal equilibrium	$T_I = T_{II}$	$T_{II} = T_{III}$
mechanical equilibrium	$p_I = p_{II}$	$p_{II} = p_{III}$
chemical equilibrium	$\mu_I = \mu_{II}$	$\mu_{II} = \mu_{III}$

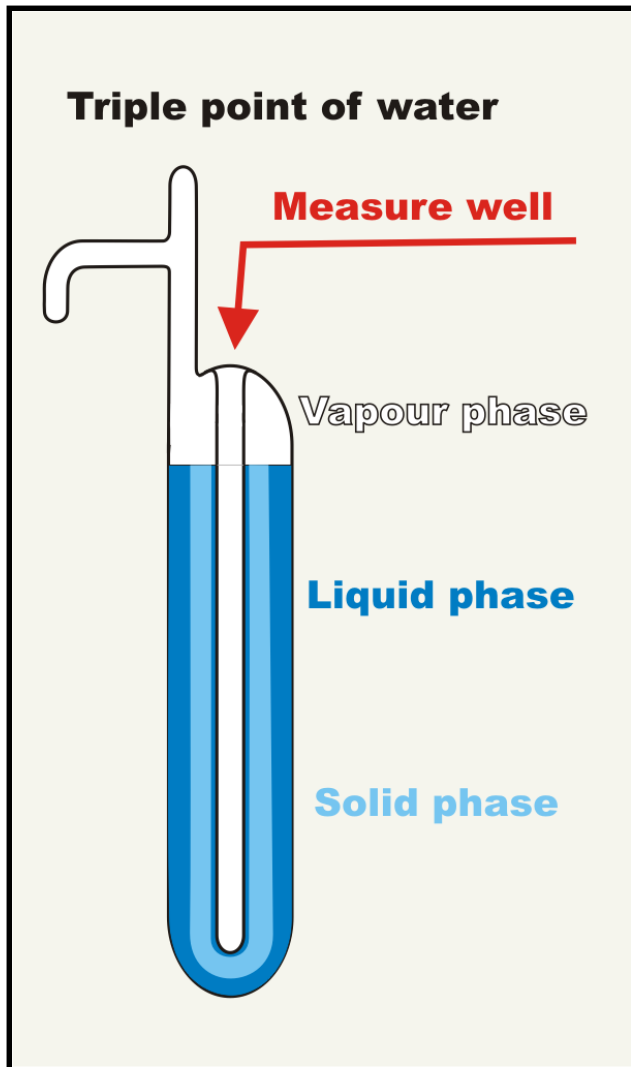
**6 constraints  
on  
6 variables**

→ **no independent variables (a fixed point)**

**Example** Water vapor, liquid water, and solid water (ice) are in equilibrium **only at the triple point:** 0.016 °C and 0.006117 bar.

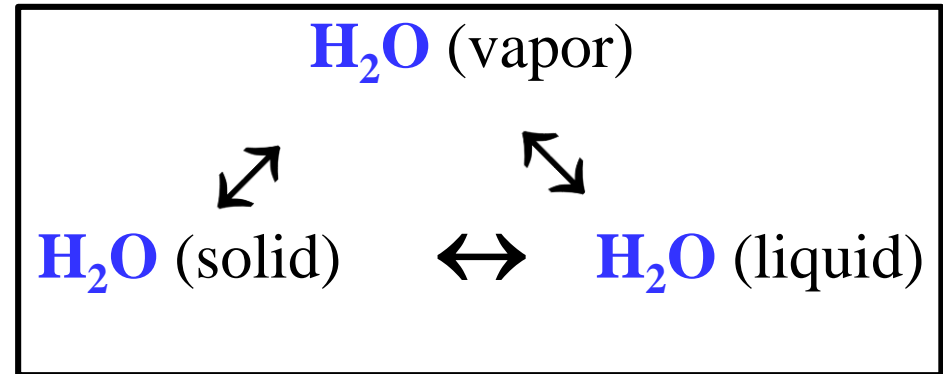
# A Practical Application of the Phase Rule

Define the temperature scale and calibrate thermometers



*the triple point of water*

(an “invariant” point)



$$T_{\text{tp}} \equiv 273.16 \text{ K} \quad (= 0.01 \text{ } ^\circ\text{C})$$

defines the temperature scale  
using only water, cheap glassware,  
and the Phase Rule



# Phase Rule

## Pure Substances ( $C = 1$ Component)

degrees of freedom = three - number of phases

$$F = 3 - P$$

## Systems Consisting of $C$ Components (next Chapter)

$$F = C + 2 - P$$

**! Warning !**

## Phase Rule

**! Warning !**

Pure Substances ( $C = 1$  Component)

$$F = 3 - P$$

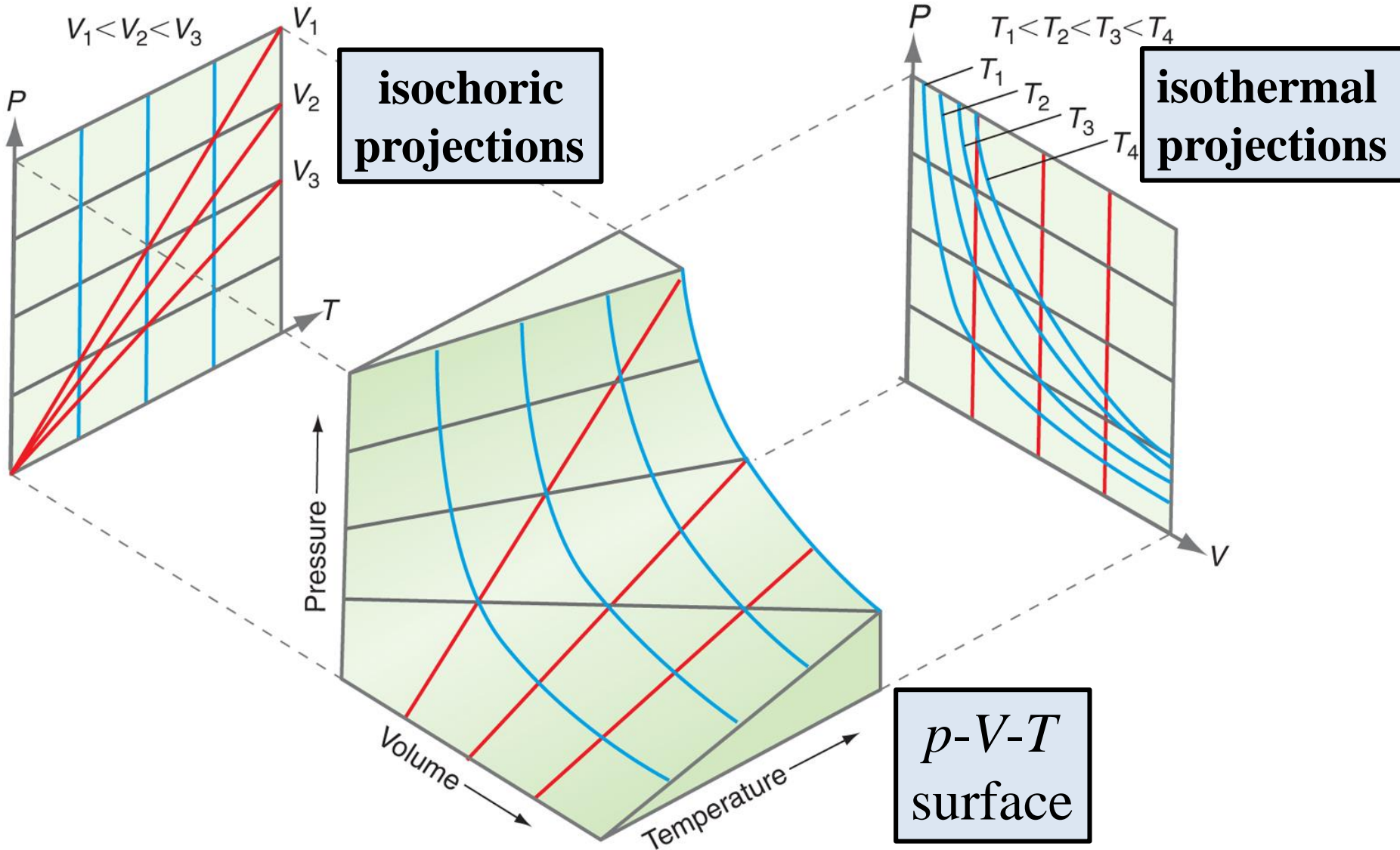
Systems Consisting of  $C$  Components (next Chapter)

$$F = C + 2 - P$$

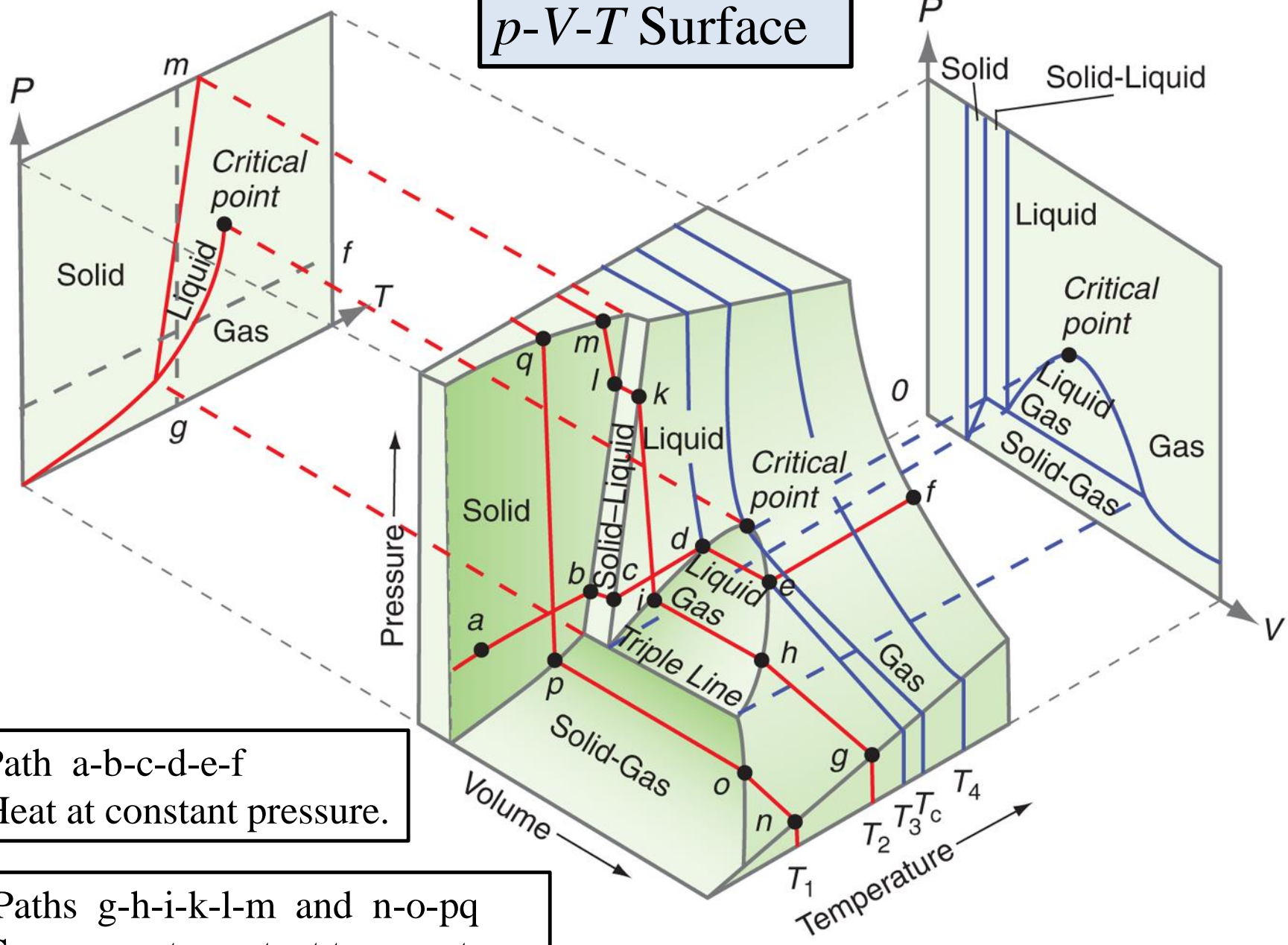
**These rules apply to equilibrium systems.**

Non-equilibrium metastable phases frequently exist, especially for solids (very slow phase conversion **rates**).

# Section 8.4 Multidimensional Phase Diagrams



# p-V-T Surface



Path a-b-c-d-e-f  
Heat at constant pressure.

Paths g-h-i-k-l-m and n-o-pq  
Compress at constant temperature.

## Sections 8.5 and 8.6 Thermodynamics of Phase Diagrams

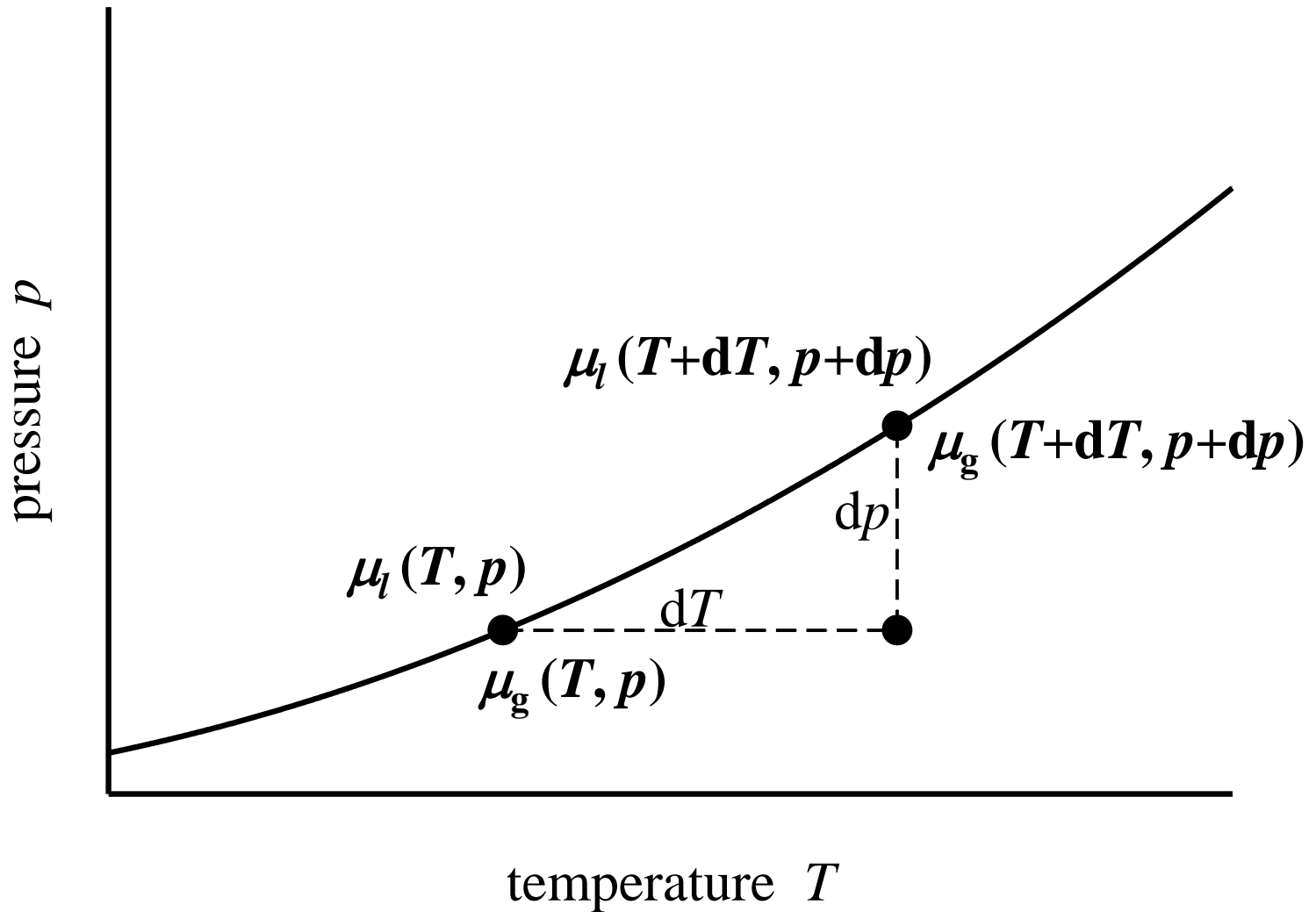
Phase diagrams provide information such as:

- boiling points
- freezing points
- critical points
- co-existence curves for the equilibrium of two phases
- triple points for three phases in equilibrium

Using the 1st and 2nd Laws, enthalpy and entropy changes for phase transitions can also be determined, *without calorimetry*.

**Example**  $\text{H}_2\text{O}(l) \leftrightarrow \text{H}_2\text{O}(g)$

The chemical potentials (Gibbs energy per mole) of the liquid and the gas are equal at each point along the boiling curve.



Equilibrium at point  $p, T$  on the boiling-point curve:

$$\mu_l(T, p) = \mu_g(T, p)$$

Equilibrium at neighboring point  $p + dp, T + dT$  on the curve:

$$\mu_l(T + dT, p + dp) = \mu_g(T + dT, p + dp)$$

$$\cancel{\mu_l(T, p)} + \left(\frac{\partial \mu_l}{\partial T}\right)_p dT + \left(\frac{\partial \mu_l}{\partial p}\right)_T dp = \cancel{\mu_g(T, p)} + \left(\frac{\partial \mu_g}{\partial T}\right)_p dT + \left(\frac{\partial \mu_g}{\partial p}\right)_T dp$$

Use  $dG_m = d\mu = -S_m dT + V_m dp$  to get

$$-S_{ml} dT + V_{ml} dp = -S_{mg} dT + V_{mg} dp$$

$$(S_{mg} - S_{ml}) dT = (V_{mg} - V_{ml}) dp$$

$$\frac{dp}{dT} = \frac{S_{mg} - S_{ml}}{V_{mg} - V_{ml}} = \frac{\Delta S_{\text{vap},m}}{\Delta V_{m,\text{vap}}}$$

The result for  $dp/dT$  for the liquid-gas equilibrium **generalizes to**

## Clapeyron Equation

(for *any* phase transition)

$$\frac{dp}{dT} = \frac{\Delta S_m}{\Delta V_m} = \frac{\Delta H_m}{T\Delta V_m}$$

### Significance

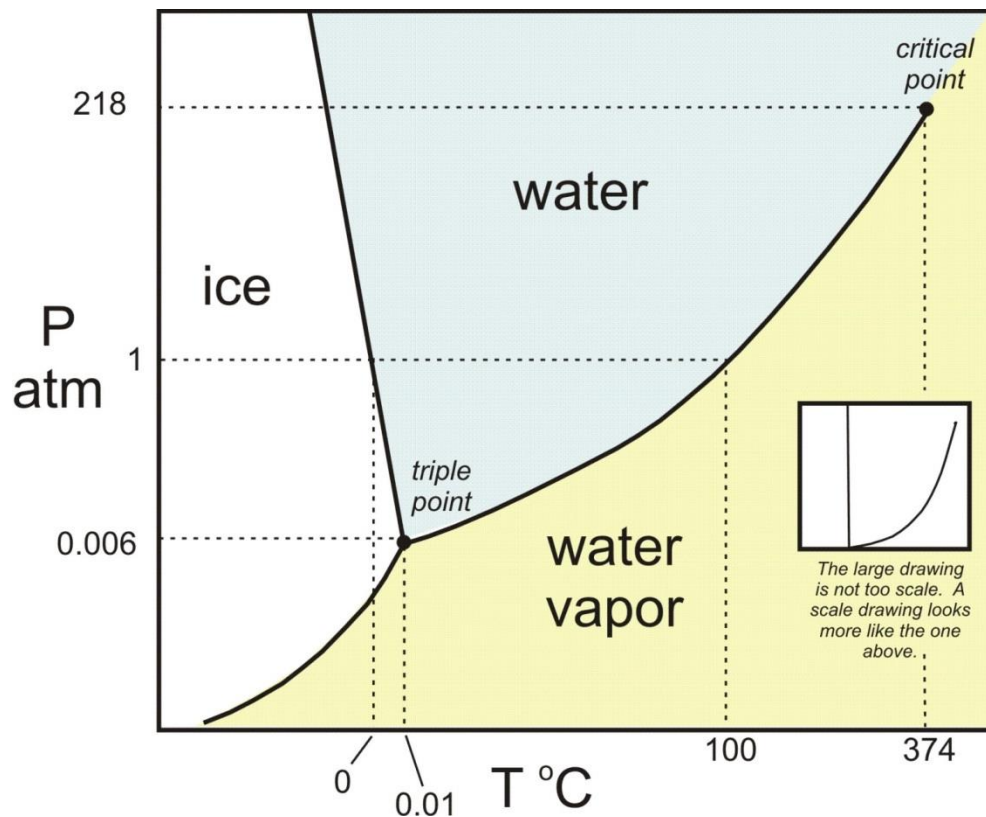
- ◆ relates phase-diagram slopes to  $\Delta S$ ,  $\Delta H$ , and  $\Delta V$
- ◆ an exact thermodynamic result (no approximations made)
- ◆ applies to liquid-gas, solid-gas, solid-solid transitions
- ◆ valuable source of  $\Delta S$  and  $\Delta H$  data – *without calorimetry*  
( $\Delta V$  usually available from density data)

- Why can  $\Delta S_m$  be replaced with  $\Delta H_m/T$  ?
- Why is the ordinary derivative  $dp/dT$  used instead of the partial derivative  $\partial p/\partial T$  ?



**Example** Use the Clapeyron equation to calculate  $dp/dT$  for the melting of ice at the triple point.

**Why do this?** To understand why the melting curve is so steep. Also, why is the slope  $dp/dT$  negative, indicating that ice melts at lower temperatures if the pressure is increased.



Can this help to explain glacier flow and why skating is so fast?

Does high pressure produce a film of liquid water for lubrication?

**Example** Use the Clapeyron equation to calculate  $dp/dT$  for **melting ice** at the triple point.



**Data at the water triple point** (273.16 K, 0.006117 bar)

$$\Delta H_{\text{fus,m}} = 6010 \text{ J mol}^{-1}$$

$$\text{H}_2\text{O}(s) \text{ density} = 0.931 \text{ g cm}^{-3} = 931. \text{ kg m}^{-3}$$

$$V_{\text{ms}} = (18.01 \text{ g mol}^{-1}) / 0.931 \text{ g cm}^{-3} = 19.34 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$$

$$\text{H}_2\text{O}(l) \text{ density} = 1.000 \text{ g cm}^{-3} = 1000. \text{ kg m}^{-3}$$

$$V_{\text{ml}} = (18.01 \text{ g mol}^{-1}) / 1.000 \text{ g cm}^{-3} = 18.01 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$$

$$\Delta V_{\text{m}} = V_{\text{ml}} - V_{\text{ms}} = 18.01 - 19.34 = -1.33 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$$

**$\Delta V_{\text{m}}$  explains why  
 $dp/dT$  is negative!  
(liquid is denser)**

$$\frac{dp}{dT} = \frac{\Delta H_{\text{m}}}{T \Delta V_{\text{m}}} = \frac{6010 \text{ J mol}^{-1}}{(273.16 \text{ K}) (-1.33 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1})} = -1.65 \times 10^7 \text{ Pa K}^{-1}$$

$$\frac{dp}{dT} = -165 \text{ bar K}^{-1}$$

The equilibrium shifts toward ice as the pressure increases, favoring the phase with the smaller volume (higher density).

**Example** Use the Clapeyron equation to calculate  $dp/dT$  for the **vaporization of water** at the triple point.



**Data at the water triple point** (273.16 K, 0.006117 bar)

$$\Delta H_{\text{vap,m}} = 45,050 \text{ J mol}^{-1}$$

$$V_{\text{mg}} = RT/p = (0.083144 \text{ bar L mol}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1})(273.16 \text{ K})/(0.006117 \text{ bar})$$

$$V_{\text{mg}} = 3713 \text{ L mol}^{-1} = 3.713 \times 10^6 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$$

$$\text{H}_2\text{O}(l) \text{ density} = 1.000 \text{ g cm}^{-3} = 1000. \text{ kg m}^{-3}$$

$$V_{\text{ml}} = (18.01 \text{ g mol}^{-1}) / 1.000 \text{ g cm}^{-3} = 18.01 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$$

$$\Delta V_{\text{m}} = V_{\text{ml}} - V_{\text{ms}} = 3.713 \times 10^6 - 18.01 = 3.713 \times 10^6 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$$

$$\frac{dp}{dT} = \frac{\Delta H_{\text{m}}}{T\Delta V_{\text{m}}} = \frac{45,050 \text{ J mol}^{-1}}{(273.16 \text{ K})(3.713 \text{ m}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1})} = 44.4 \text{ Pa K}^{-1}$$

$$\frac{dp}{dT} = 0.000444 \text{ bar K}^{-1}$$

$dp/dT$  for vaporization is much smaller than  $dp/dT$  for melting ( $-165 \text{ bar K}^{-1}$ ) because  $\Delta V_{\text{m}}$  for vaporization is so much larger.

# Clausius-Clapeyron Equation

For **vaporization** and **sublimation**

**liquid** → **gas**

$$\Delta V_m = V_{mg} - V_{ml} \approx V_{mg}$$

**solid** → **gas**

$$\Delta V_m = V_{mg} - V_{ms} \approx V_{mg}$$

Clausius noted  $\Delta V_m \approx RT/p$  and modified the Clapeyron equation:

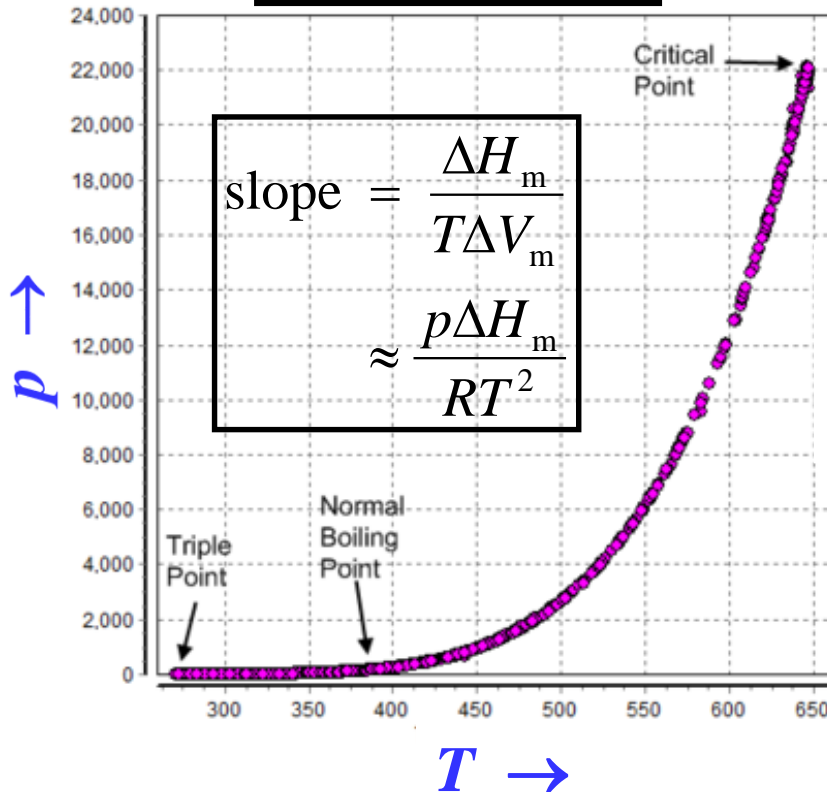
$$\frac{dp}{dT} = \frac{\Delta H_m}{T\Delta V_m} \approx \frac{\Delta H_m}{T(RT/p)}$$

$$\frac{d \ln p}{d\left(\frac{1}{T}\right)} = -\frac{\Delta H_m}{R}$$

[ using  $d(1/T) = T^{-2}dT$  and  $d \ln p = dp/p$  ]

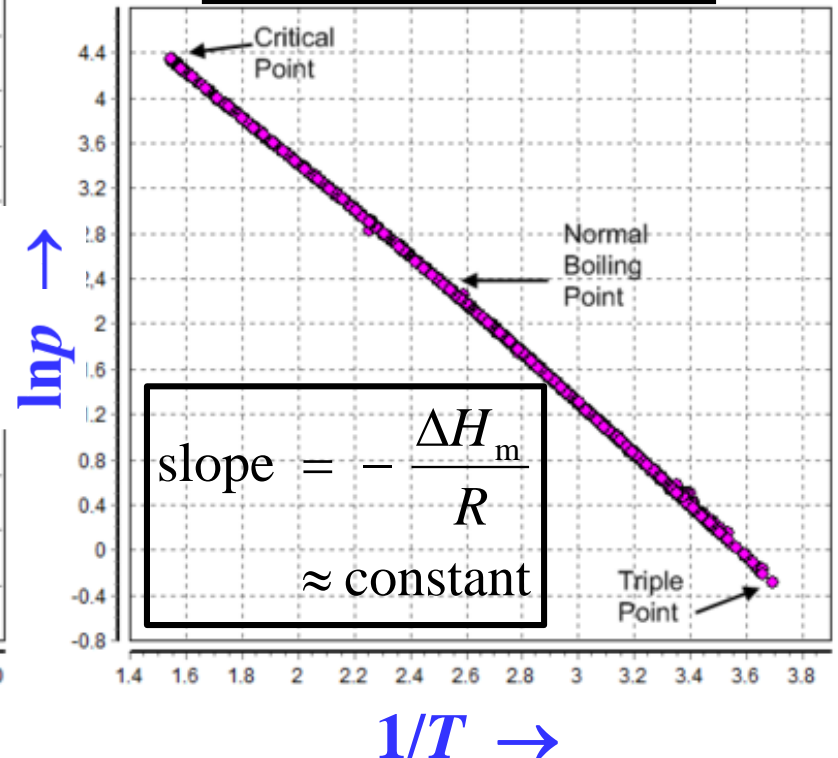
# Clapeyron Equation

$$\frac{dp}{dT} = \frac{\Delta H_m}{T\Delta V_m}$$



# Clausius-Clapeyron Equation

$$\frac{d \ln p}{d \left( \frac{1}{T} \right)} = - \frac{\Delta H_m}{R}$$



# Clausius-Clapeyron Equation

For **vaporization** and **sublimation**, assuming  $\Delta V_m = RT/p$  :

$$d \ln p = -\frac{\Delta H_m}{R} d \frac{1}{T}$$

Integrate assuming constant  $\Delta H_m$

$$\int_{\ln p_1}^{\ln p_2} d \ln p = - \int_{1/T_1}^{1/T_2} \frac{\Delta H_m}{R} d \frac{1}{T} \approx -\frac{\Delta H_m}{R} \int_{1/T_1}^{1/T_2} d \frac{1}{T}$$

$$\ln p_2 \approx \ln p_1 - \frac{\Delta H_m}{R} \left( \frac{1}{T_2} - \frac{1}{T_1} \right)$$

Used to estimate vapor and sublimation pressures at different temperatures

## Clausius-Clapeyron Equation

**Example** The normal boiling point of water ( $p = 1 \text{ atm}$ ) is  $100 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ . At this temperature the enthalpy of vaporization is  $40,657 \text{ J mol}^{-1}$ . Estimate the vapor pressure of water at the triple point temperature ( $0.01 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ).

$$T_1 = 373.15 \text{ K} \qquad p_1 = 1 \text{ atm} = 1.01325 \text{ bar}$$

$$T_2 = 273.16 \text{ K} \qquad p_2 = ?$$

$$\ln p_2 \approx \ln p_1 - \frac{\Delta H_{\text{vap,m}}}{R} \left( \frac{1}{T_2} - \frac{1}{T_1} \right)$$

$$\ln p_2 \approx \ln(1.01325) - \frac{40,657}{8.314} \left( \frac{1}{273.16} - \frac{1}{373.15} \right)$$

Calculate  $p_2 = 0.00836 \text{ bar}$  at  $0.01 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ . (Measure  $0.00612 \text{ bar}$ )

## Clausius-Clapeyron Equation

The **Clausius-Clapeyron equation** for the temperature dependence of vapor pressures [ $A(l) \rightarrow A(g)$ ] and sublimation pressures [ $A(s) \rightarrow A(g)$ ]

$$\frac{d \ln p}{d(1/T)} = - \frac{\Delta H_m}{R}$$

closely resembles the **van't Hoff equation** for the temperature dependence of the equilibrium constants of chemical reactions

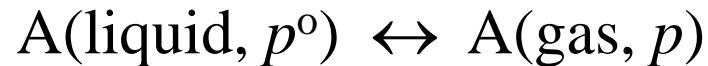
$$\frac{d \ln K}{d(1/T)} = - \frac{\Delta H_R^\circ}{R}$$

This is no accident! The “equilibrium constant” for  $A(s) \rightarrow A(g)$  and  $A(l) \rightarrow A(g)$  is  $p_A/p^\circ$ .



## Section 8.7 Pressure-Dependence of the Vapor Pressure of Solids and Liquids (Almost Negligible)

The vapor pressure  $p$  of a pure liquid at standard pressure  $p^\circ$  is calculated from the equilibrium condition



$$\mu_l^\circ(p^\circ) = \mu_g^\circ(p^\circ) + RT \ln(p/p^\circ)$$

If the liquid is under an applied pressure of  $p^\circ + \Delta p$ , the equilibrium is shifted and the vapor pressure of the liquid changes to  $p^*$ :

$$\mu_l(p^\circ + \Delta p) = \mu_g^\circ(p^\circ) + RT \ln(p^*/p^\circ)$$

Using

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_l(p^\circ + \Delta p) &= \mu_l^\circ(p^\circ) + \int_{p^\circ}^{p^\circ + \Delta p} \left( \frac{\partial \mu_l}{\partial p} \right)_T dp \\ &= \mu_l^\circ(p^\circ) + \int_{p^\circ}^{p^\circ + \Delta p} V_{ml} dp \approx \mu_l^\circ(p^\circ) + V_{ml} \Delta p\end{aligned}$$

shows

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_l(p^\circ + \Delta p) &= \mu_l^\circ(p^\circ) + V_{ml} \Delta p \\ &= \mu_g^\circ(p^\circ) + RT \ln(p/p^\circ) + V_{ml} \Delta p \\ &= \mu_g^\circ(p^\circ) + RT \ln(p^*/p^\circ)\end{aligned}$$

Find  $RT \ln(p^*/p) = V_{ml} \Delta p$

pressure increase  $\Delta p$  increases the chemical potential of liquid water by  $V_{ml} \Delta p$

$$\frac{\text{vapor pressure of liquid at } p^\circ + \Delta p}{\text{vapor pressure of liquid at } p^\circ} = e^{V_{ml} \Delta p / RT}$$

## Pressure-Dependence of the Vapor Pressure of Solids and Liquids (Almost Negligible)

**Example** The vapor pressure  $p$  liquid water at 25 °C under a pressure of 1 bar is 3.17 kPa. Calculate the vapor pressure of water at 25 °C under a total applied pressure of 5 bar.

**Data:** Use  $18 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$  for the molar volume of the liquid.

$$V_{ml} = 18 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$$

$$\Delta p = (5 - 1) \text{ bar} = 4 \text{ bar} = 400,000 \text{ Pa}$$

$$V_{ml}\Delta p/RT = (18 \times 10^{-6})(400,000)/(8.314)(298.15) = 0.00290$$

The vapor pressure increases by about 0.29 % (small effect) to  $(3.17 \text{ bar})e^{0.00290} = 3.179 \text{ bar}$

all SI units



## Section 8.8 Surface Tension

- the thermodynamic properties of gases, liquids and solids are well understood
- what about the properties of the boundaries between these phases?
- interfacial properties can be important for systems with large specific surface areas (surface area per unit mass), such as:
  - ◆ bubbles and foams
  - ◆ fogs, mists, smokes and suspensions
  - ◆ dust, powders and nanoparticles
  - ◆ porous materials
  - ◆ microemulsions and detergent micelles
  - ◆ heterogenous catalysts

## Surface Tension - *Applications*

- why do some liquids “spread” on surfaces, others “bead up”
- why do paper towels, fabrics, sponges ... soak up liquid?
- how do soaps and detergents “dissolve” oil in water?
- why can liquids be cooled below the freezing point (supercooled)?
- why can liquids be heated above the boiling point (superheated), then suddenly and dangerously flash into vapor
- how do boiling chips prevent superheating?



**water droplets “beading”  
on a surface**

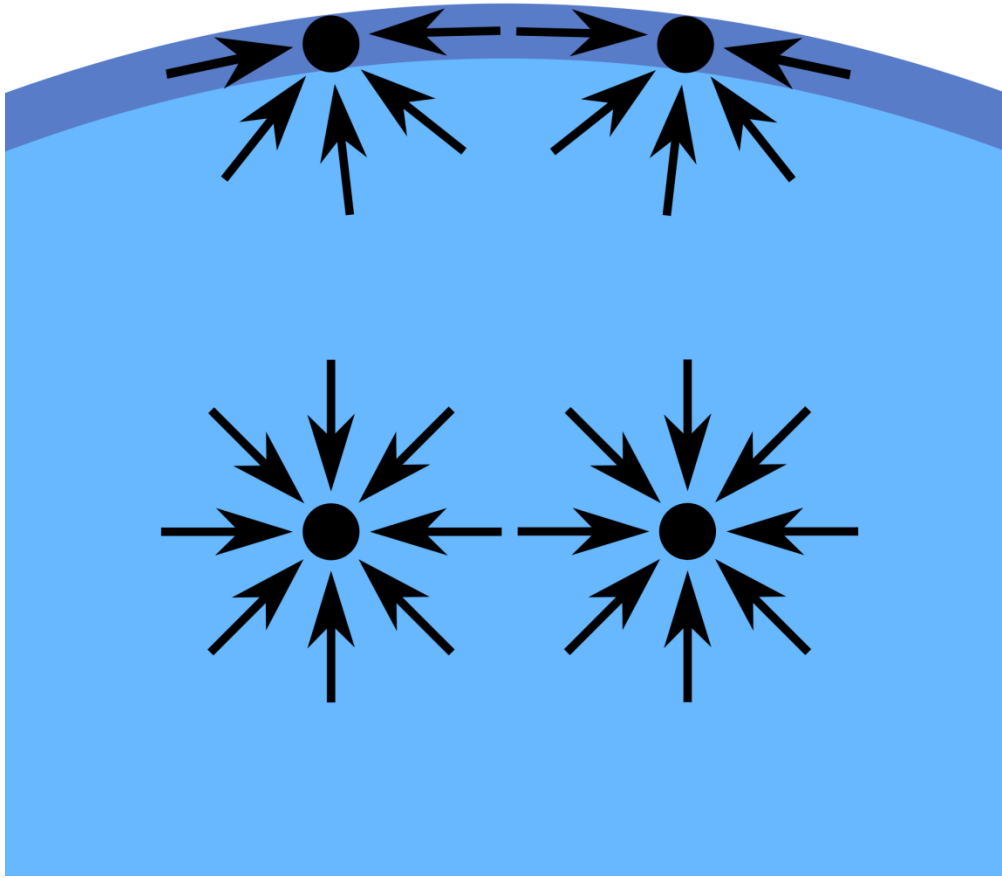


**steel paper clip  
“floating” on water**



**water bug  
“walking” on water**

# Surface Tension



Unbalanced attractive intermolecular forces at the surface of a solid or a liquid pull molecules At the surface inward, creating **surface tension**.

Surface tension acts like a thin, stretched elastic film, compressing the interior molecules.

## Surface Tension - Thermodynamic Definition

The surface work  $dw_s$  required to increase the surface area of a system from  $\sigma$  to  $\sigma + d\sigma$  is

$$dw_s = \gamma d\sigma$$

Breaking attractive intermolecular forces to form new surface area requires work to be done on a system, leading to positive surface work for increasing surface area.

First Law (including  $p$ - $V$  and surface work)

$$dU = TdS - pdV + \gamma d\sigma$$



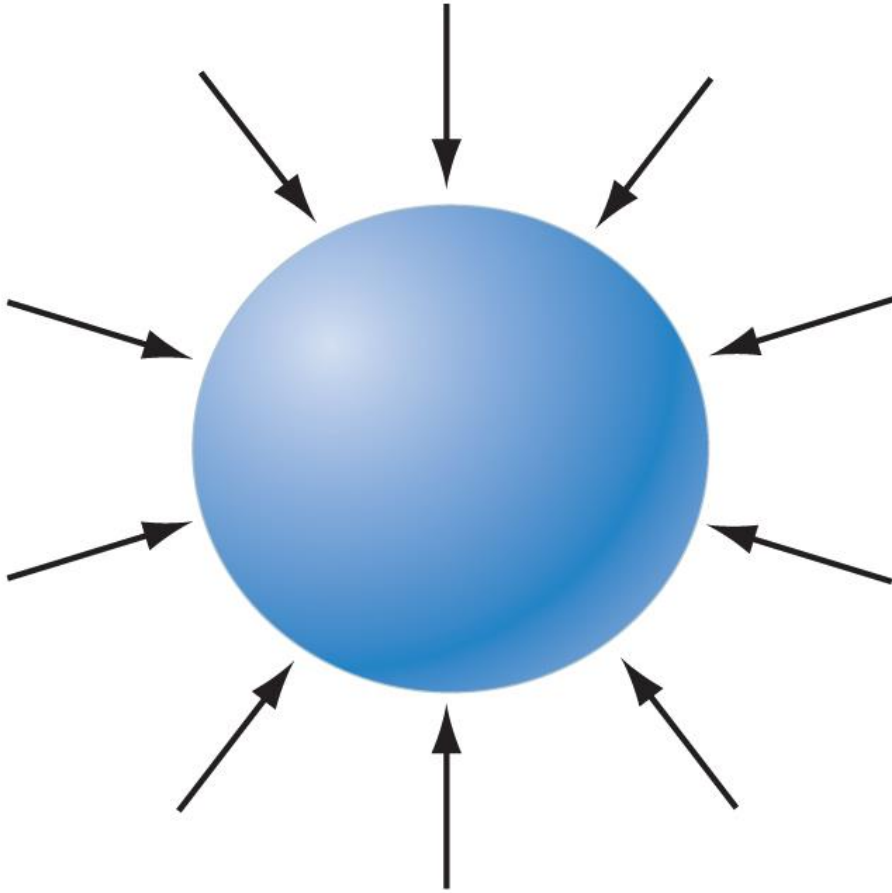
## Surface Tension - Thermodynamic Definition

$dG = d(U - TS + pV)$  for the Gibbs energy gives

$$dG = -SdT + Vdp + \gamma d\sigma$$

The surface tension can be interpreted as the “Gibbs surface energy”, the increase in  $G$  with surface area at fixed temperature and pressure.

$$\gamma = \left( \frac{\partial G}{\partial \sigma} \right)_{T,p}$$



To minimize the Gibbs energy, a free droplet forms a sphere, the geometrical object with the smallest area per unit volume.

**Applications?**

Surface tension has units of **force per unit length**, such as  $\text{N m}^{-1}$ .

$\gamma$  is analogous to a pressure (force per area) reduced by one dimension.

## Surface Tension of Selected Liquids at 25 °C

Formula	Name	$\gamma$ ( $\text{mN m}^{-1}$ )	Formula	Name	( $\text{mN m}^{-1}$ )
$\text{Br}_2$	Bromine	40.95	$\text{CS}_2$	Carbon disulfide	31.58
$\text{H}_2\text{O}$	Water	71.99	$\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{OH}$	Ethanol	21.97
Hg	Mercury	485.5	$\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{N}$	Pyridine	36.56
$\text{CCl}_4$	Carbon tetrachloride	26.43	$\text{C}_6\text{H}_6$	Benzene	28.22
$\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$	Methanol	22.07	$\text{C}_8\text{H}_{18}$	Octane	21.14

(Why are the surface tensions of water and mercury relatively high?)

## Temperature Dependence of the Surface Tension

$$\gamma \approx \gamma_0 \left( 1 - \frac{T}{T_c} \right)^n$$

$\gamma_0$  is a constant for each liquid

$n$  is a constant ( $\approx 1.2$  for non-hydrogen-bonded liquids)

**What is the predicted surface tension at the critical temperature?**

**Is this value reasonable?**

**Example** Calculate the work required to disperse 16 cm<sup>3</sup> of liquid water into a mist of 50-nm-diameter droplets at 20 °C. Use  $\gamma = 0.0728 \text{ N m}^{-1}$ .

$$w_s = \int_{\sigma_i}^{\sigma_f} dw_s = \int_{\sigma_i}^{\sigma_f} \gamma d\sigma = \gamma \int_{\sigma_i}^{\sigma_f} d\sigma = \gamma(\sigma_f - \sigma_i)$$

$\sigma_f$  = final surface area = number of droplets  $\times$  area per droplet

$$= \frac{\text{total volume}}{\text{volume per drop}} 4\pi r^2 = \frac{16 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3}{\frac{4}{3}\pi r^3} 4\pi r^2 = \frac{3}{r} (16 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3)$$

$$= \frac{3 (16 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^3)}{25 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}} = 1920 \text{ m}^2$$

specific surface area = (1920 m <sup>2</sup> ) / (16 g) = <b>120 m<sup>2</sup> g<sup>-1</sup></b>
---

$\sigma_i$  = initial surface area  $\approx 0$  (negligibly small, only a few cm<sup>2</sup>)

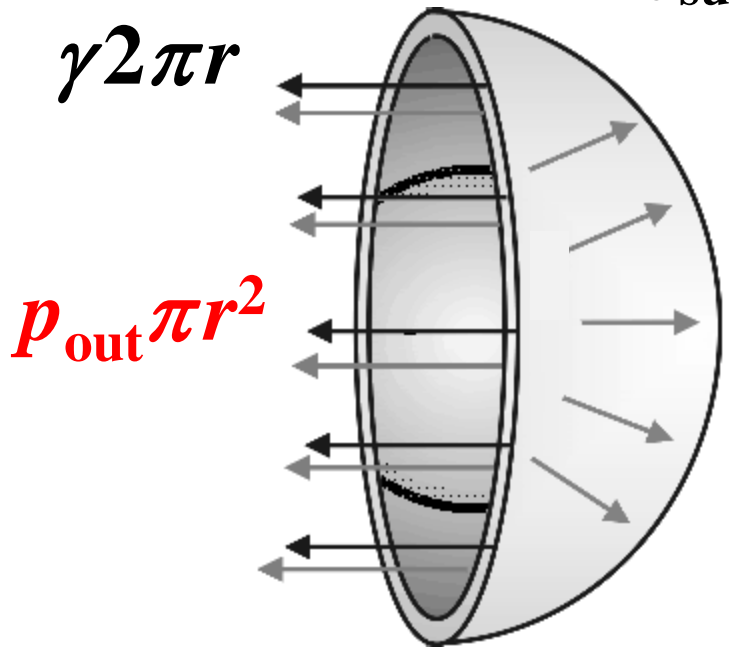
$$w_s = \gamma(\sigma_f - \sigma_i) \approx \gamma \sigma_f = (0.0728 \text{ N m}^{-1}) (1920 \text{ m}^2) = \mathbf{140 \text{ J}}$$

**Laplace Equation:** The Pressure Inside a Curved Surface is Higher than the Outside Pressure

- surface tension on circumference  $2\pi r$  pulls left

- **outside pressure on area  $\pi r^2$  pushes left**

- **inside pressure on area  $\pi r^2$  pushes right**

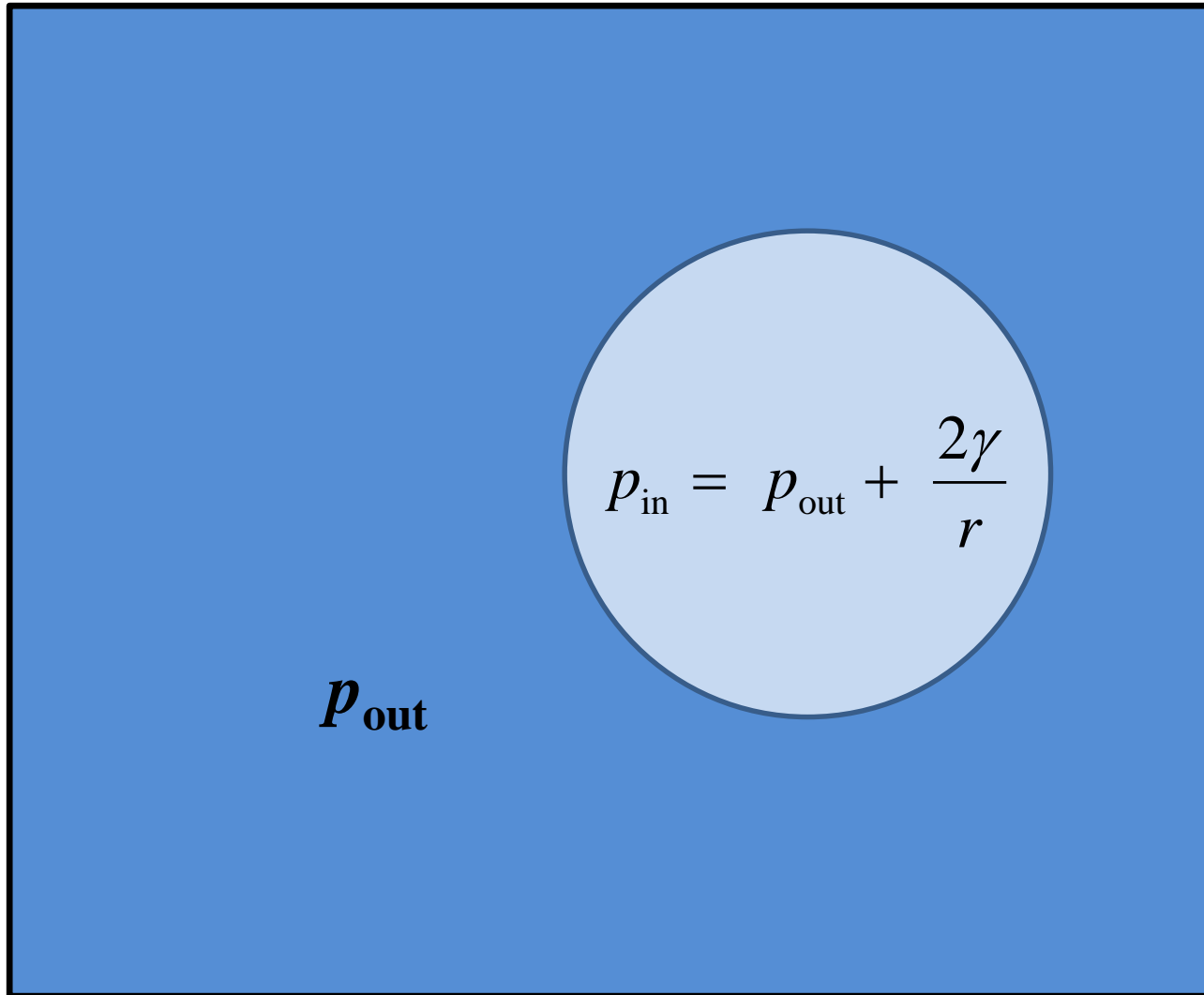


**Horizontal Force Balance**  
**on a Bubble Cut in Half**

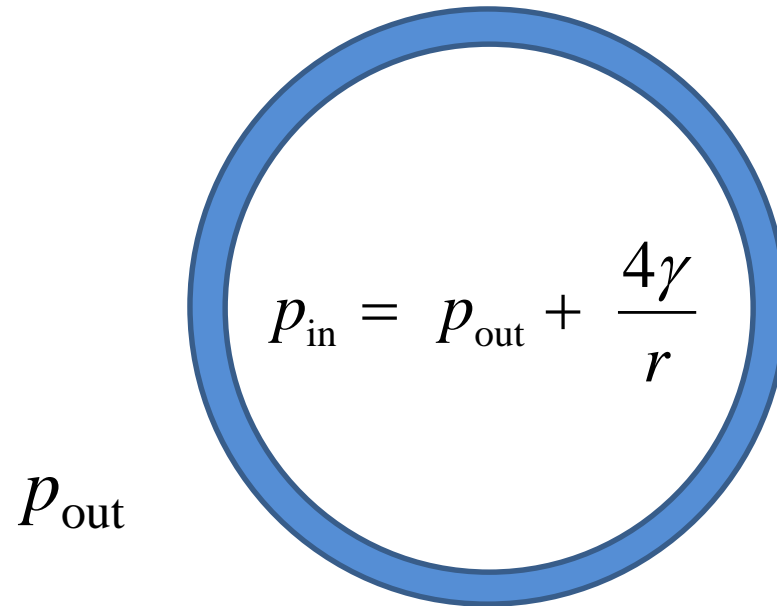
$$\gamma 2\pi r + p_{out} \pi r^2 = p_{in} \pi r^2$$

$$p_{in} = p_{out} + \frac{2\gamma}{r}$$

# Pressure in a Bubble of Vapor in a Liquid



# Pressure in a Soap Bubble

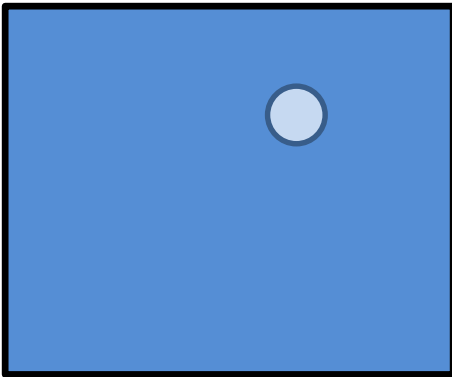


**Why  $p_{\text{out}} + 4\gamma/r$  ?**



## Pressure Inside a Bubble

**Example** Calculate the pressure inside a 50-nm diameter bubble of water vapor (steam) at the normal boiling point.



$$T = 373.15 \text{ K} \quad (100 \text{ }^\circ\text{C})$$

$$p_{\text{out}} = 101,325 \text{ Pa} \quad (1 \text{ atm})$$

**Data:** surface tension  $\gamma = 0.0589 \text{ N m}^{-1}$

$$p_{\text{in}} = p_{\text{out}} + \frac{2\gamma}{r}$$

$$= 101,325 \text{ Pa} + \frac{2 (0.0589 \text{ N m}^{-1})}{25 \times 10^{-9} \text{ m}}$$

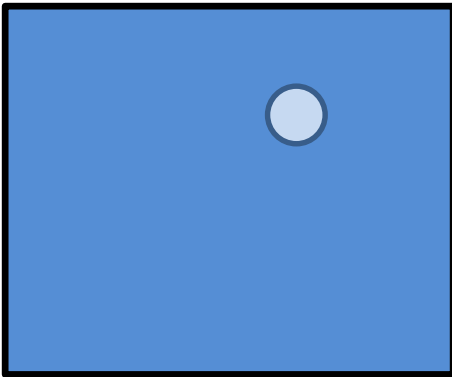
$$= 101,325 \text{ Pa} + 4,710,000 \text{ Pa}$$

$$p_{\text{in}} = 4,810,000 \text{ Pa} \quad (47.5 \text{ atm} !)$$

**\*\* The vapor in the bubble ( $p \gg 1 \text{ atm}$ ) is unstable at 100 °C \*\***

## Pressure Inside a Bubble - Superheating

A liquid heated in a clean, dust-free non-porous container can superheat and suddenly flash into vapor, with explosive violence.



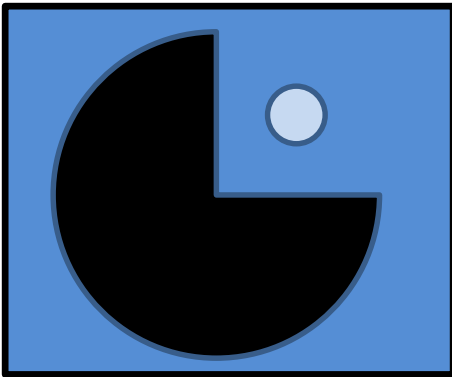
**Why?**

- the first bubbles of vapor are **microscopic in size** ( $r \ll 1$  mm)
- surface tension pressure  $2\gamma/r$  strongly compresses the vapor
- vapor in microscopic bubbles is unstable, reverts to liquid

(see calculations on the previous slide)

## Pressure Inside a Bubble - **Superheating**

To prevent superheating and “bumping” use:



- boiling chips
- porous materials
- dust, dirt or sand ...

These materials allow vapor to form on macroscopic surfaces with **macroscopic radii of curvature** and negligible vapor compression.

## **Supersaturation can be Lethal: Lake Nyos Disaster**

Lake Nyos is a crater lake on an extinct volcano in Cameroon, Africa.

A magma chamber under the Lake supersaturates the deeper water with CO<sub>2</sub>.



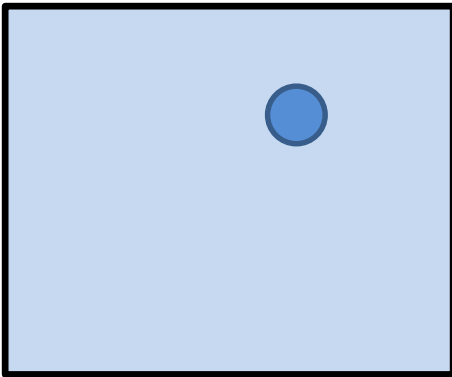
On the night of 21 August 1986, a small landslide into the Lake caused rapid mixing, bringing deep water to the surface.

Under reduced pressure, hundreds of thousands of tons of CO<sub>2</sub> gas were suddenly released from the supersaturated solution.

1,746 people and thousands of livestock were suffocated by the CO<sub>2</sub> gas (denser than air) flowing down valleys from the Lake.

# Pressure Inside a Droplet - **Supercooling**

A vapor cooled in a clean, dust-free non-porous container can supercool below the condensation temperature.



**Why?**

(application: “**cloud seeding**” to make it rain)

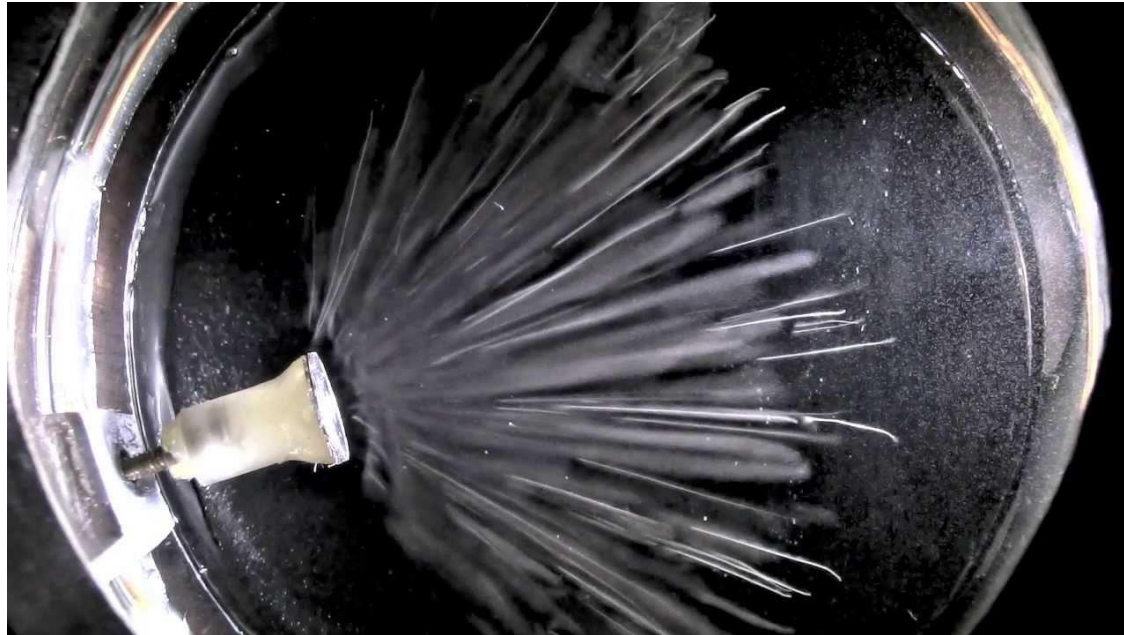
- the first droplets of liquid are **microscopic in size** ( $r \ll 1$  mm)
- surface tension pressure  $2\gamma/r$  strongly compresses the liquid
- the increased vapor pressure increases makes the droplets unstable

(see Section 8.7)

# Pressure Inside a Droplet - **Supercooling**

Application:

**Cloud Chambers**



- used to detect ionizing radiation (*e.g.*, alpha or beta particles)
- radiation passes through a supercooled vapor, such as ether
- ionized vapor molecules provide sites for condensation
- trail of condensed droplets indicates the particle tracks

# Capillary Rise (also called Capillarity)

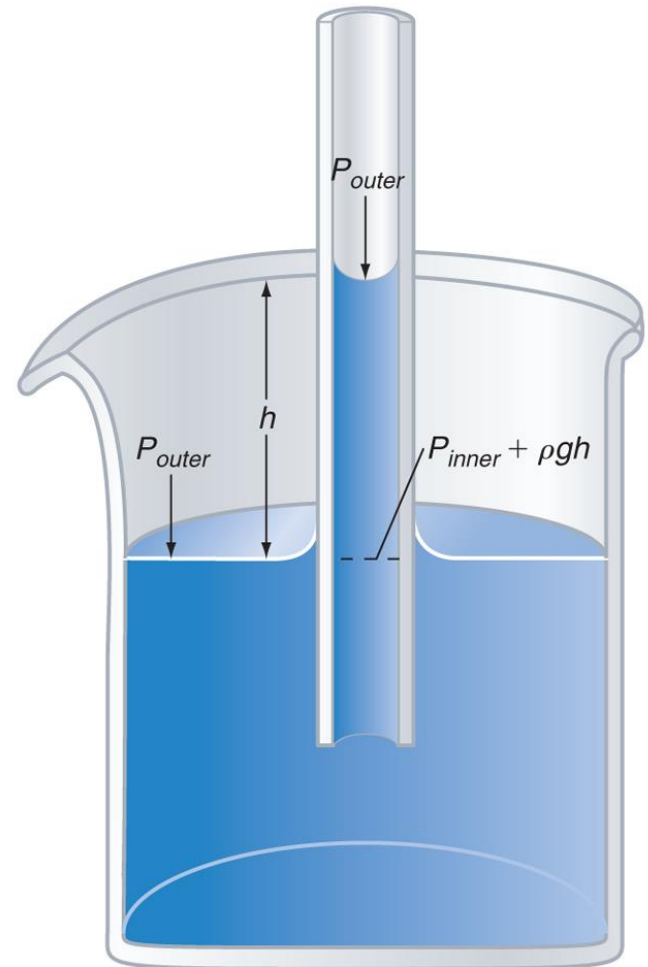
Dip a glass capillary tube into liquid water.

Water climbs up the tube.

**Why?**

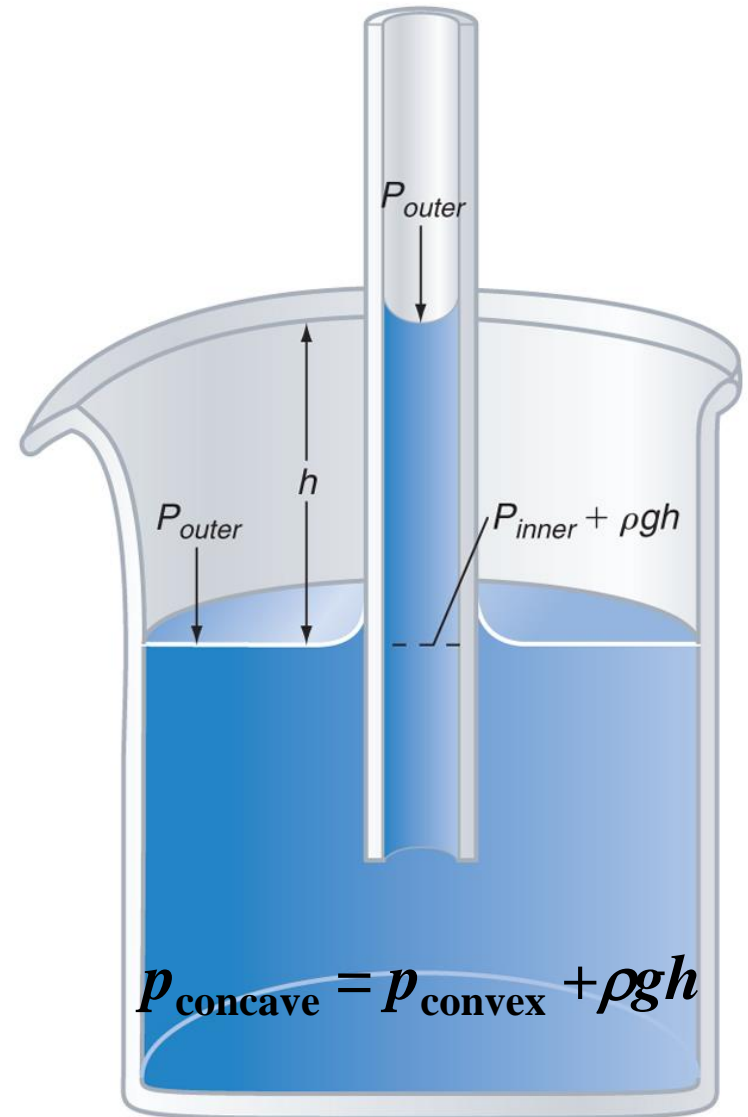
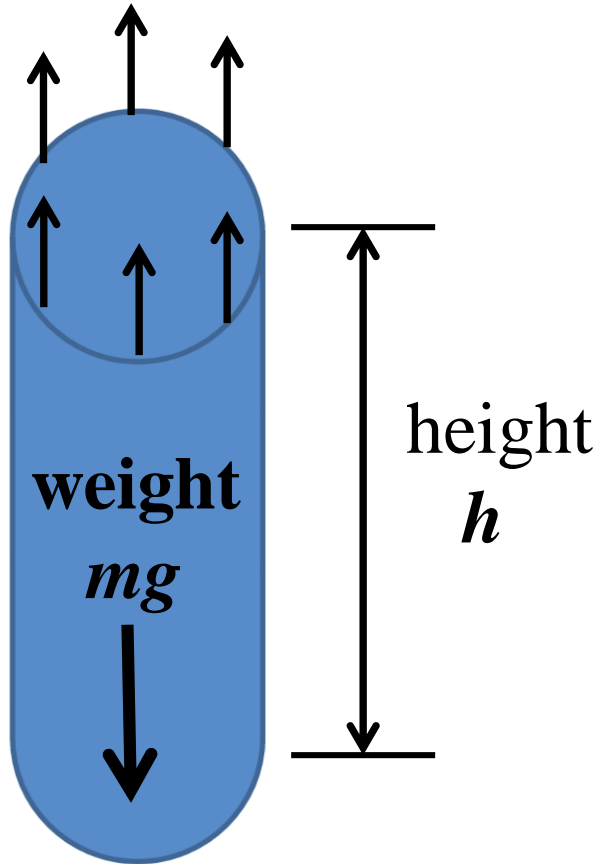
## Applications

- sap rises in trees
- candle wicks soak up wax
- pen tips soak up ink
- porous materials absorb liquid
- soil absorbs rainwater
- removing oil from porous rock can be expensive



# Capillary Rise (also called Capillarity)

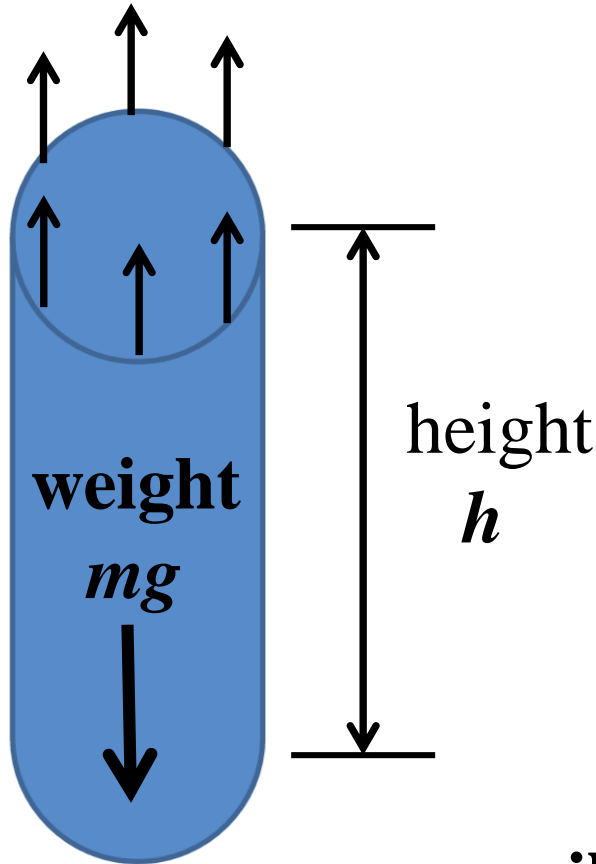
surface  
tension  
 $2\pi r\gamma$





# Capillary Rise (also called Capillarity)

surface  
tension  
 $2\pi r\gamma$



Surface tension acting around the meniscus of circumference  $2\pi r$  pulls a cylinder of liquid of height  $h$  and density  $\rho$  up the tube

$$mg = 2\pi r\gamma$$

$$V\rho g = 2\pi r\gamma$$

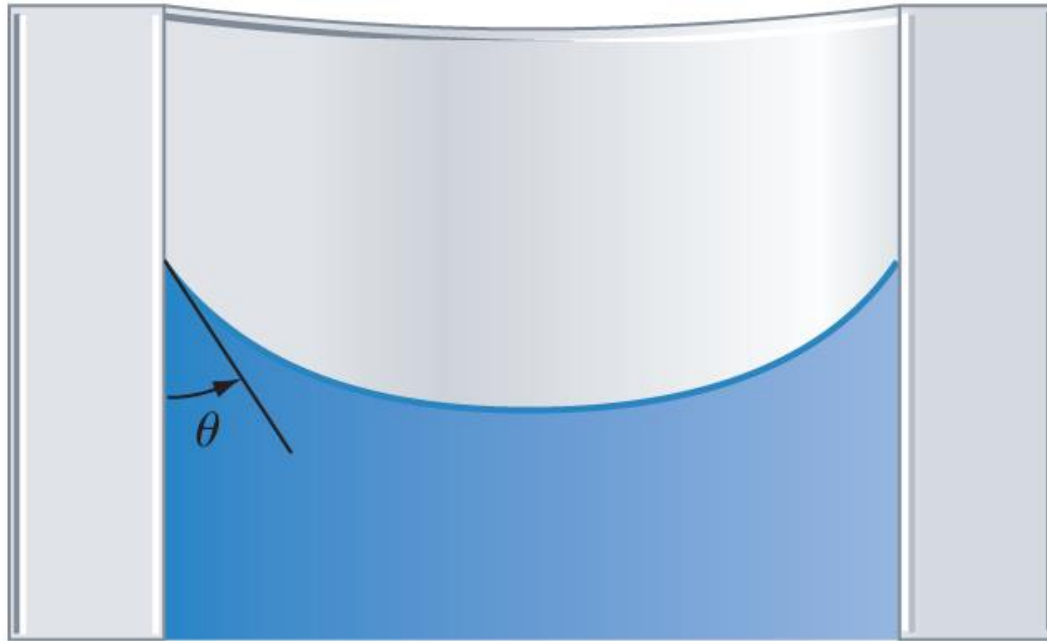
$$(\pi r^2 h)\rho g = 2\pi r\gamma$$

capillary rise

$$h = \frac{2\gamma}{\rho g r}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P_{\text{concave}} &= P_{\text{convex}} + \rho g h \\ &= P_{\text{convex}} + (2\gamma/r) \end{aligned}$$

## Capillary Rise (also called Capillarity)



If the liquid doesn't wet the tube material (**contact angle  $\theta > 0^\circ$** ) only the vertical component of the surface tension force pulls the liquid up the tube.

**capillary rise**

$$h = \frac{2\gamma \cos \theta}{\rho g r}$$

# Capillary Rise (also called Capillarity)

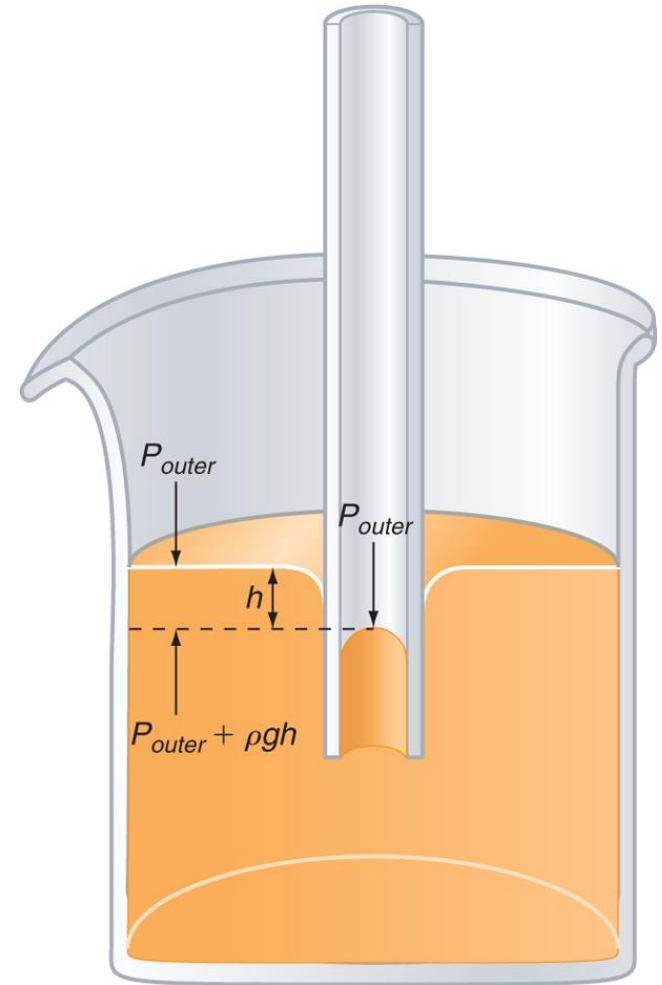
If the liquid is completely nonwetting (*e.g.*, mercury on glass):

$$\theta = 180^\circ$$
$$\cos \theta = -1$$

surface tension pulls liquid **down** the tube

capillary **depression**  
( $h < 0$ )

$$h = \frac{2\gamma \cos \theta}{\rho g r}$$



## **Section 8.9 Chemistry in Supercritical Fluids**

and

## **Section 8.10 Liquid Crystals**

reading assignment